

I wish I didn't have to wait until the last minute to write my columns, but it's how it always is. It's been a frantic warm season thus far this year, with lots of travel and show going and the photos are here to show it. On one hand I think the punk scene is more exciting and happening than ever before, with all these fests and so many international touring bands this summer, it's been a great season. But this issue of S&L has been one of the hardest to pull together. There is a certain amount of that challenge that comes with each issue, but this one really took me a step into the other direction and made me look at things and accept possible changes in a way that I really had not before. See S&L has been a self-sustaining entity for a long time. I drag it forward and if I lag, it drags me forward, but it sustains itself. The schedule is timely and predictable, the ads come in and keep it going. But that is what has taken a new turn. Everyone is

broke and struggling these days, from individuals, to bigger indie punk labels, to the small punk labels. The ads that for awhile I could count on to sustain this zine have almost dried up. It seems no one can afford to advertise, and those that can are budgeting like crazy. I understand it, advertising is a strange animal, and I wish that I didn't rely on it as I do, but the fact is the ads pay for the printing and postage of this free zine, and I'd like to think that we have a good arrangement and a formula that works. The other shift that I've seen happen gradually that hit me hard just recently is everyone's need to go digital. Everyone wants to send me digital ads over the computer, and I'm still struggling in the dark ages with a computer from the 90s that isn't compatible with these snazzy downloading capabilities. I'm lucky to be able to deal with the text files and email. But all of a sudden I'm up

against people that don't deal with paper anymore, they tell me, "well we don't have a good laser printer... can't we just send it digital, the quality is so much better." Ugh. Except in my experience that isn't true. The digital ads look digital, but when things are printed out and glued down, we all know what it will look like, and it looks so much better.

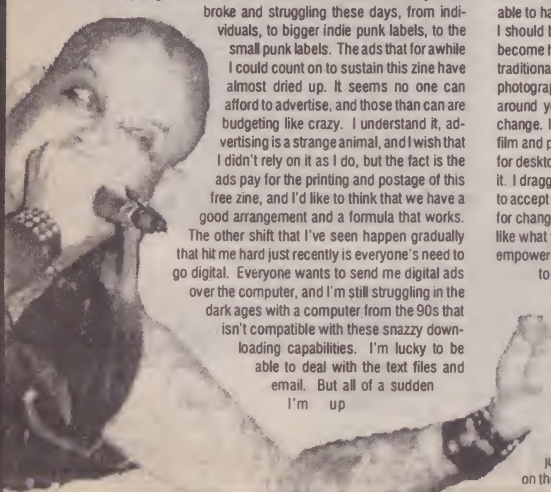
The saddest thing is that I'm fighting this digital horizon and the financial impact in all facets of my life. I work in a photo lab and the photo industry is struggling big time. Digital has taken over and people are ceasing to use film. We've seen our workload drop in half in the past year alone, and that is after dwindling for awhile before that. Everyone is going digital and you can do that at home. My parents are a perfect example, they just went on a cross country trip and shot like 10,000 photos on their digital cameras. Just think how much film that would have been. And I have mixed feelings all around. As a do-it-yourself supporter, being able to have your own digital photo lab at home is awesome, and something that I should be supportive of, and finally the technology has gotten good that it's become hard to argue with. But I'm a photographer, and I love film, and I love the traditional process and I guess I must feel the way painters in the 1800s felt when photography was a newly developed art. It's hard to watch the world change around you, especially when you're not really caught up in the progress and change. I can't really knock the digital revolution anymore, though I still cling to my film and paper and glue and old ways. I dragged my feet about using a computer for desktop publishing in the early 90s and S&L would be impossible now without it. I dragged my feet over email in the late 90s and now I rely on that too. I'm slow to accept changes sometimes, even though I feel like I fight with most of my energy for change in many regards. But I'm a stubborn old goat in many ways too and I like what works and I hate gadgets and new technology which while on one hand empowers us to be able to do things ourselves without others, also requires you to be depending on the continual evolution of new technology, which of course comes at a high price, and thus far isn't so well time-proven.

And when your brain doesn't work with electronics and technology naturally, well that is hard to deal with most of the time. So this month I have been watching people lose their positions and hours at the photo lab because there is just no work for them, and I'm watching the ads all but dry up in S&L because people have no money and/or want to stay digital, and it has really shaken me up a bit and made me reevaluate and think about possible new directions that S&L might have to go in, which is mostly just possibly shrinking in pages and therefore having to focus a bit more on the stuff that I think really matters. We shall see. I'm not giving up yet. And this issue manage to maintain the same page size and I've got a photo collage poster in the centerfold which I think is pretty exciting. I've also spent a lot of time lately trying to salvage and organize my S&L archives, which have been in a sad neglected state in my molding nasty garage, much to the horror of many of my friends and fellow respected zine publishers. I got some good storage crates for them to protect them from the elements. The stacks on the front and back porch have been taken to the new shelves in the almost cleaned up garage. My latest photo plan is to do a 20 year anniversary of S&L

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So under the banner of "Happy Death Day Ronnie", we went to Texas James' house for a show with BornDead. I was so stoked to see BornDead that I said I could left for home right then and there and been satisfied, but happily there was so much more punk rock to have. It was awesome to find so many friends from across the country kicking it in the yard there. What on one hand is an unexpected showing of so many friends, should actually be quite expected at this point as many of them I'd just seen in Mpls a few weeks before, and am now looking forward to seeing again in Philly in a few weeks for the next big fest. I love these gatherings for that reason - it's kinda like a family reunion where those of us who live all over and spread out can all come together for these manic weekends. I think we should do it more often. But sometimes it's the spontaneousness of the right event and the right time that while you know it's going to be good, ends up being better than you can plan for. And the Prank Fest this year was fucking fantastic! Got to see Signal Lost, Artimus Pyle and Sunday Morning Einsteins and several others. It was so cool to be in a new part of the country and meet new people I've only written to in the past, and generally just get a whole new feeling for a place. And it was awesome to see how stoked people were to see Drop Dead who have not played there for some time. It was awesome! The next night I got to see BornDead again! And then back to back World Burns to Death, Kylesa and Paintbox from Japan. And that was a breathless line up if there ever was one. WBTD are one of my absolute faves whom I could rave about for ages, whom we don't get to see often enough. And Kylesa fortunately I've seen a lot of lately and that just makes it all the better. And Paintbox left everyone speechless. I wish I could have stuck around for a few days and gotten to see the town and the hills

surrounding, and eat more yummy food, but I had to catch an early morning plane and go straight back to work (big mistake) and had the kind of shitty day where the Christian Missionaries in the airport ended up being the best thing that happened, and that is a sign of a real crapper of a day. But I made it home safely, and it seemed to take me several weeks to fully recuperate from all the manic punk rock fun as well as the inevitable crash that comes from doing so much and then readjusting to stationary life again. But Richmond is rad, and I'm fighting dearly to keep my Hardcore Holocaust friends from moving away, and just wishing that our local punk scene could be better and that more people would come to the bunch of good shows that we've been having which for the most part have embarrassing turn outs (my apologies to you all who have been here for crapper shows!) We've been having daily thunderstorms and so much rain that everything is growing out of control, but we're almost getting waterlogged as we reach the hot and humid dog days of summer when it is so unbearably muggy it's impossible to enjoy the overgrown hammock in the garden.

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There's a lot more punk exuberance coming up at the Pointless fest, where I will get to see Hellshock! and Tragedy and so many other favorites. And while this doesn't really fit in here, I have to mention this band Cruachan, from Ireland, who are a cross between traditional Celtic music and black metal, with male/female dual vocals, who are just amazing and have become the icing on the cake for me this year. They have a brand new album out called Pagan, and for anyone who likes Celtic music and/or metal, this is my new dream come true band. A few other obsessions to mention - Muga from Japan are my new favorite band. With a big Tragedy influence, they're what I'm listening to non stop. The Wolfbrigade D-Beat Odyssey album rules too. And Grim Aria, a new band from Philly just played and rocked my world. They play metal that reminds me of the UK punks when they went metal in the 90s. And I have not tired one ounce in my obsession with Hellshock, who I listen to every day, and Aphasia, well you know... I'm stoked to get to see both play real soon.

So it's hot, I'm practically out of work, we're all broke, the finances of the zine world are struggling, film is almost obsolete, and not enough punks live in Richmond or come to the great shows that we have, but life is good. There are loads of amazing bands playing and touring this summer, and more gatherings of the tribes coming up soon. In fact, I would say that life couldn't be better!

—Chris(tine) · 804

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Summer 2004

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(ie. \$1.20 = 2 consecutive issues, \$2.40 = 4 issues/year.

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And when you get the computers and technology naturally, well that is hard to deal with most of the time. So this month I have been watching people lose their positions and hours at the photo lab because there is just no work for them, and I'm watching the ads all but dry up in S&L because people have no money and or want to stay digital, and it has really shaken me up a bit and made me reevaluate and think about possible new directions that S&L might have to go in, which is mostly just possibly shrinking in pages and therefore having to focus a bit more on the stuff that I think really matters. We shall see. I'm not giving up yet. And this issue manage to maintain the same page size and I've got a photo collage poster in the centerfold which I think is pretty exciting. I've also spent a lot of time lately trying to salvage and organize my S&L archives, which have been in a sad neglected state in my molding nasty garage, much to the horror of many of my friends and fellow respected zine publishers. I got some good storage crates for them to protect them from the elements. The stacks on the front and back porch have been taken to the new shelves in the almost cleaned up garage. My latest photo plan is to do a 20 year anniversary of S&L photo book which will include all the band photos that have been in S&L in that time. Since my NYC photo book has not progressed any further, though I still hope it will, I am hoping to be able to get the S&L one done in conjunction with the 20 year mark. I dragged out the originals for the early issues and realized how bad they were, as well as how good, and just how long it's been. Talk about a trip down memory lane. So this is as good of a place as any to give a shout out to the old punks, 30 years old and over, who by my side, even if many miles away are still at it and keeping things alive. It's my inspiration every day to watch the punks grow older and make punk truly a way of life. Cheers!

I've seen more bands in the past few months that I think I've seen in the past few years. It started out with a trip to Milwaukee to visit Karoline and Robert and then drive to Minneapolis for Thrash Fest on Mayday. The highlight of that good time for me was seeing From Ashes Rise and Wolfbrigade both of whom totally fucking rocked my world. This is not to dismiss all the other amazing bands that played - it was a long crowded day of bands. Caustic Christ, RAMBO, Damage Deposit, the Leveling, Vitamin X all played while the record distros sold records in a tight corridor and the punks drank cases of beer in the parking lot which was really quite odd to see at what I

is for shows. In fact, it's the perfect space of all the punks at the totally collective punk record store show space combo. I was impressed and pleased in my beloved Pittsburgh. A week later on what ended up being kind of a spontaneous whim, I flew to Austin Texas for the Prank Fest. Whew, where to start on that one. Austin is an off the hook kind of city. There was a 30,000 + biker gathering in town, as well as gay pride weekend, while the punks were also gathering and barely making a dent in this party town. 2 days of amazing shows with crazed parties in between and barely a chance to even get to see the town. The punks went canoeing in a city park, while I checked out a feminist bookstore, and then had the obsessive and mandatory avocado margaritas in the only free hours of the day there were. Although I also got to eat at Mr. Natural, a traditional "interior" Mexican health food restaurant that I stumbled upon in 1995 and have been dreaming of revisiting ever since for the avocado salad dressing and veggie tamales! The first day I got to Austin I spent the afternoon sipping Tecate at the tattoo shop run by this guy covered in leopard print facial tattoos, while Liz and I reacquainted and Ky got tattooed. It was while we were kicking back there, listening to the motorcycles rev their engines that we found out Reagan had died. So under the banner of "Happy Death Day Ronnie", we went to Texas James' house for a show with BornDead. I was so stoked to see BornDead that I said I could left for home right then and there and been satisfied, but happily there was so much more punk rock to have. It was awesome to find so many friends from across the country kicking it in the yard there. What on one hand is an unexpected showing of so many friends, should actually be quite expected at this point as many of them I'd just seen in Mpls a few weeks before, and am now looking forward to seeing again in Philly in a few weeks for the next big fest. I love these gatherings for that reason - it's kinda like a family reunion where those of us who live all over and spread out can all come together for these manic weekends. I think we should do it more often. But sometimes it's the spontaneousness of the right event and the right time that while you know it's going to be good, ends up being better than you can plan for. And the Prank Fest this year was fucking fantastic! Got to see Signal Lost, Artimus Pyle and Sunday Morning Einstein and several others. It was so cool to be in a new part of the country and meet new people I've only written to in the past, and generally just get a whole new feeling for a place. And it was awesome to see how stoked people were to see Drop Dead who have not played there for some time. It was awesome! The next night I got to see BornDead again! And then back to back World Burns to Death, Kylesa and Paintbox from Japan. And that was a breathless line up if there ever was one. WBTD are one of my absolute faves whom I could rave about for ages, whom we don't get to see often enough. And Kylesa fortunately I've seen a lot of lately and that just makes it all the better. And Paintbox left everyone speechless. I wish I could have stuck around for a few days and gotten to see the town and the hills

(my apologies to you all who have been here for crapper shows!) We've been having daily thunderstorms and so much rain that everything is growing out of control, but we're almost getting waterlogged as we reach the hot and humid dog days of summer when it is so unbearably muggy it's impossible to enjoy the overgrown hammock in the garden.

It would seem incomplete here to not mention politics even a bit, since by the next issue we will hopefully have a whole new administration here in the US and things will be looking better on that horizon as well. But in the meantime, George just makes me too mad to make any sense. Go to see Michael Moore's movie Fahrenheit 9/11. Not only does it put the past several years in perspective, but it ties in all the corruption of the administration and the Bush family and how far it goes back, and reminds us of just how bad it is. If I get going, I could write endlessly and passionately, even if not that articulately about how upsetting the Republicans are and how dumb and corrupt George is, and what a terrible speaker he is, but so many have already done that and you're been hearing plenty more on the topic in the coming months. I hope we can look beyond to something better, cause I don't think any of us will survive another four years like this. I would rather talk about punk rock and books and dogs and plants cause at least that stuff is fun and exciting and more positive than the disturbing realities of our war hungry government. Speak out, and fight it, and yes, vote in the fall. I think it's important!

There's a lot more punk exuberance coming up at the Pointless fest, where I will get to see Hellshock!! and Tragedy and so many other favorites. And while this doesn't really fit in here, I have to mention this band Cruachan, from Ireland, who are a cross between traditional Celtic music and black metal, with male/female dual vocals, who are just amazing and have become the icing on the cake for me this year. They have a brand new album out called Pagan, and for anyone who likes Celtic music and/or metal, this is my new dream come true band. A few other obsessions to mention - Muga from Japan are my new favorite band. With a big Tragedy influence, they're what I'm listening to non stop. The Wolfbrigade D-Beat Odyssey album rules too. And Grim Aria, a new band from Philly just played and rocked my world. They play metal that reminds me of the UK punks when they went metal in the 90s. And I have not tired one ounce in my obsession with Hellshock, who I listen to every day, and Aphasia, well you know... I'm stoked to get to see both play real soon.

So it's hot, I'm practically out of work, we're all broke, the finances of the zine world are struggling, film is almost obsolete, and not enough punks live in Richmond or come to the great shows that we have, but life is good. There are loads of amazing bands playing and touring this summer, and more gatherings of the tribes coming up soon. In fact, I would say that life couldn't be better!
—Chris(time) • 804

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A ZINE SUPPORTING THE DO-IT-YOURSELF ETHICS OF THE PUNK COMMUNITY

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DOG DAYZ

THE SUMMER OF GLASS - CHAPTER 3 - K9 IS A PUNK ROCK SQUATTER GIRL LIVING IN THE LOWER EAST SIDE OF MANHATTAN ITS A HOT SUMMER & GLASS HOUSE IS THE COOLEST SQUAT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD ESPECIALLY SINCE EMBROYO HOUSE HAD BURNED DOWN THE PREVIOUS FALL - DUG BEY IS ONE OF THE PUNKS DISPLACED BY THE FIRE - IN THE LAST CHAPTER K9 WAS WORKING AT HER SQUAT - EYEBALL HOUSE - & DUG HAD BEEN TAKEN IN BY CRAZY LOUIE AT HOTTUB HOUSE - BEFORE GETTING A SPACE IN EYEBALL HOUSE K9 HAD BEEN RELATIVELY HOMELESS & HAD A BIT OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN. HEY! I WOULD LOVE SOME FEEDBACK ON THE STORY - CONTACT FLY! POBox 1318 COOPER STn NYC NY10276 USA EMAIL: FLY@BWAY.NET (PUT "Dog Dayz" AS SUBJECT SO I KNOW ITS NOT SPAM)

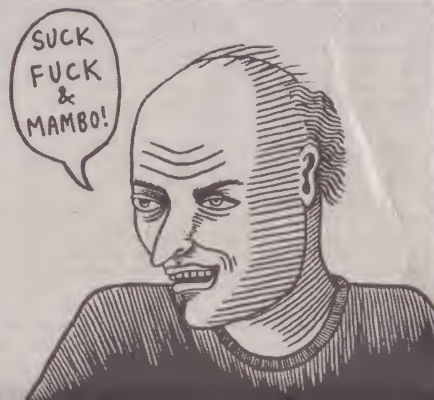
AFTER 2 YEARS OF LIVING IN PUBLIC K HAD SORT OF LOST HER MIND WHICH HAD CONSISTED OF HEARING VOICES & HALLUCINATING & CUTTING UP HER ARMS - IT WASNT WHAT SHE HAD EXPECTED - FOR EXAMPLE - THE VOICES DIDNT REALLY COMMUNICATE TO HER THAT SHE SHOULD DO OUTRAGEOUS PSYCHOTIC ACTS & THEY DIDNT REALLY GIVE HER ANY COHERENT OR POETIC INFORMATION - IT WAS MORE LIKE SHE JUST KEPT HEARING RANDOM WORDS REALLY LOUD WHICH MADE IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT OTHER PEOPLE WERE SAYING - OR WHAT SOUNDS WERE ACTUALLY HAPPENING OUTSIDE OF HER HEAD - & THE HALLUCINATIONS WERENT EVEN VERY INTERESTING - MOSTLY JUST BIG BLACK HOLES THAT WOULD SUDDENLY OPEN UP IN THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF HER LIKE WHIRLPOOLS THREATENING TO SUCK HER IN SO SHE WOULD HAVE TO WALK AROUND THEM AT QUITE A DISTANCE WHICH MADE IT



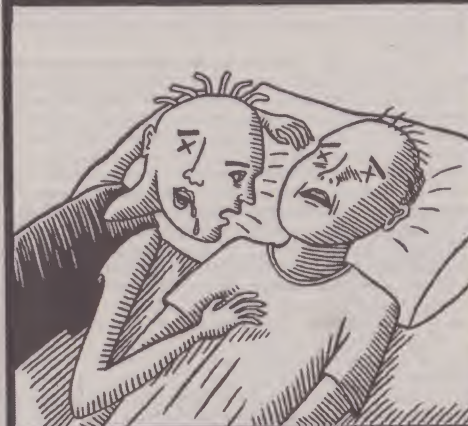
DIFFICULT TO GET ANYWHERE IN A HURRY - THIS WAS NOT AN INTERESTING OR ROMANTIC TYPE OF MADNESS - IT WASNT GOING TO MAKE HER A GREAT ARTIST - IT WAS JUST FRUSTRATING EMBARRASSING & DEPRESSING & MADE HER WANT TO AVOID PEOPLE - SHE DECIDED SHE HAD TO FIND A PLACE TO LIVE OR SHE WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE NYC SO THATS WHEN SHE STARTED WORK DAYS AT EYEBALL HOUSE - JUST GOING TO THE WORK DAYS WAS A GOOD DISTRACTION FROM THE NOISE INSIDE HER HEAD - AFTER A FEW MONTHS WHEN THE COLLECTIVE FINALLY VOTED HER IN AS A MEMBER SHE WAS REALLY HAPPY TO FINALLY HAVE A HOME

K-9 HAD FIRST COME TO NYC FIVE YEARS BEFORE THE SUMMER OF GLASS - THE CIRCUMSTANCES BY WHICH SHE ENDED UP IN NEW YORK WERE TYPICAL OF HER LIFE AT

THAT POINT - SHE HAD BEEN TOTALLY WASTED & GOT IN A CAR WITH SOME GUYS SHE HARDLY KNEW & 9 SPEEDY HOURS LATER THEY WERE CRUISING THROUGH THE LINCOLN TUNNEL - K WAS IMMEDIATELY CAUGHT UNDER THE SPELL OF THE CHAOTIC STREET LIFE - AFTER A COUPLE NIGHTS ON THE STREET IN THE SUB-ZERO DEGREES OF JANUARY HOWEVER SHE WAS READY TO MOVE INDOORS - THATS WHEN SHE MET GUIDO - GUIDO WAS A COKE DEALER WHO LIVED IN THE WEST VILLAGE - HIS REAL NAME WAS MARTIN BUT EVERYONE CALLED HIM GUIDO CUZ HE LIKED TO PRETEND THAT HE WAS HOOKED UP WITH THE FOR-REAL ITALIAN CRIME FAMILIES - K NEVER FIGURED OUT IF HE WAS REALLY ALL TALK OR IF THERE WAS ANY SUBSTANCE TO HIS CLAIMS - HE HAD TAKEN HER OUT ONE NIGHT TO MEET UP WITH "SUMMA DA BOIYS" - THEY WERE IN A BAR SOMEWHERE DOING LINES IN THE BACK & DRINKING VODKA



IN THE FRONT - EVENTUALLY K REMEMBERED HAZILY GOING TO SOME STORE THAT SOLD WOMEN'S LINGERE ONLY IT WAS LIKE 4 AM SO THE STORE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN OPEN BUT THERE WERE SOME MEN IN THERE & THEY LET GUIDO IN - SOMETHING WAS GOING DOWN - SOME KIND OF DEAL K WAS SURE OF IT & SHE WAS LEFT IN THE FRONT OF THE STORE WITH ONE OF THE MEN WHILE GUIDO WENT IN BACK WITH THE OTHERS - THIS WAS WHERE THINGS STARTED TO DISINTEGRATE FOR K - SOMETHING HAPPENED & SHE COULD NEVER REMEMBER WHAT - ALL SHE KNEW WAS THAT SHE GOT REALLY FCKN PISSED OFF REALLY FCKN FAST & ALL HER BRAIN COULD DO WAS DEMAND THAT HER BODY DO AS MUCH DAMAGE TO ANYTHING WITHIN REACH AS IT POSSIBLY COULD - SHE COULD REMEMBER THAT SHE STARTED GRAB-BING STUFF & THROWING & SMASHING BUT THEN IT ALL WENT BLACK.



HER NEXT REALIZATION WAS WAKING UP ALL SORE & THROBBING ALL SMASHED UP NEXT TO GUIDO - GUIDO HIMSELF SEEMED TO BE BARELY ALIVE BUT HE MUSTVE SENSED THAT SHE HAD REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS CUZ HE STARTED TO MUMBLE SOMETHING TO HER ABOUT EVERYTHING IS ALL FIXTUP & THEY WON'T KILL HER SO SHE DOESNT HAVE TO WORRY BUT SHE WILL HAVE TO BE REAL NICE TO HIM NOW.

SOMETIMES K WOULD GO OFF & HAVE SEX WITH GUIDO'S FRIENDS & THIS WOULD REALLY PISS HIM OFF ALTHO HE PRETENDED HE DIDNT GIVE A SHIT & ACTED LIKE IT WAS A FAVOR TO HIS FRIENDS THAT HE LET THIS HAPPEN - & THIS ONLY HAPPENED WHEN K WAS SUPREMELY FCKTUP & SO NUMB THAT SHE WOULD EXPERIENCE TOTAL DISSOCIATION FROM HER BODY

SHE WAS FASCINATED TO WATCH - IT WASNT HER - IT WAS JUST SOMEONE WHO LOOKED LIKE HER - SHE WAS ONLY THERE TO OBSERVE - ONE TIME SHE WAS WITH MARCO - A PAINTER - THEY WENT TO HIS STUDIO & HE GAVE HER MORE COKE - THEN SOMEHOW IT ENDED UP THAT HIS DICK WAS IN HER MOUTH - K SUDDENLY REALIZED THIS - THAT SHE WAS THERE IN HER BODY - & IT REALLY SHOCKED HER SO SHE PANICKED & BIT DOWN REALLY HARD - MARCO SCREAMED & THREW HER OFF HIM - SHE WAS SO SCARED THAT SHE STARTED LAUGHING - THE EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE! HOLY SHIT! & ALL THE COKE IN HER HEAD! IT WAS ALL SO FUNNY! SHE TRIED TO GRAB ANY OF HER CLOTHES THAT SHE COULD SEE & RAN OUT THE DOOR. BACK AT GUIDO'S - THE SUN WAS JUST COMING UP - THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG - K COULD FEEL IT AS SHE WAS UNLOCKING THE DOOR...



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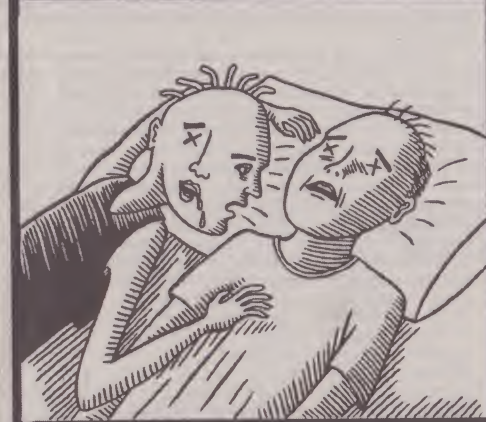


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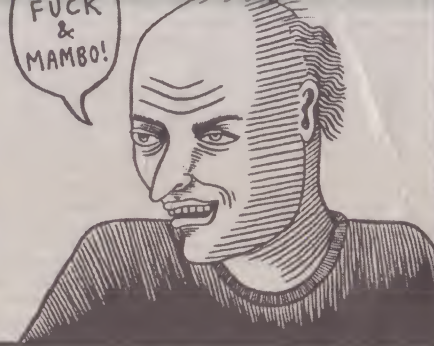


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FINALLY, GAIN THE RESPECT

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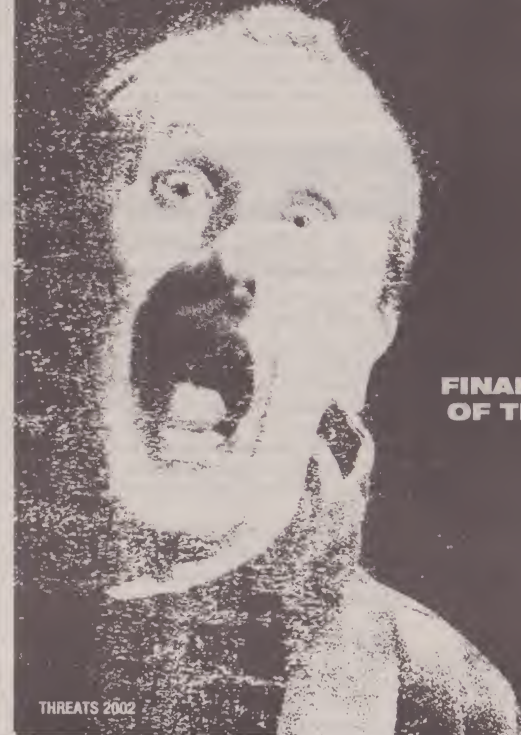
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**FINALLY, GAIN THE RESPECT
OF THOSE WHO TAUNT YOU.**

THREATS 2002

BOOKS

I've been on a summer reading binge and have plowed through a bunch of great books. Since I've read them all awhile ago, and since space is as always quite limited, I'm going to just write briefly about them rather than do actual "reviews." **Honky** by Dalton Conley is the story of a white kid growing up on the projects of the Lower East Side of New York City in the 70s. An area which mostly consists of Puerto Rican and black families, Dalton's family stands out and he has some very interesting stories to tell about his differences and assimilations, and the ways in which he learned about race and economic class at a very early age. His insights are deep, and his story is amazing. Once I started this one, I couldn't put it down.

AROUND THE BLOC by Stephanie Elizondo Griest, tells the travel stories of Stephanie's post college experience in Communist countries. She spends time in Russia, China and Cuba and it was fascinating to read about what her life was like living in these countries that most westerners really have no idea about. She took the values of a progressive hippie college town and thought that the communist/socialist countries would be great examples of these ideals, but in fact in Russia especially they were rebelling against their history and embracing capitalism and black market business. What I liked the most about this book was that Stephanie felt like one of my friends or peers, a rather like-minded person off on this adventure that I could whole-heartedly relate to. The experiences she has are invaluable and the way they are shared are totally engaging.

THE WOMAN WHO WALKED TO RUSSIA by Cassandra Pybus is about researching the myth of a Russian immigrant woman in the early part of the century who supposedly walked from Siberia through the northlands of Canada and Alaska. Having my own personal obsession with Alaska as well as rad stories about women and nature, I was intrigued. Cassandra spends an enormous amount of time in Alaska trying to follow the trail of Lillian, of whom there is almost no information, trying to understand if it was even possible to have survived such a trek of this proportion.

MARCHING POWDER: A TRUE STORY OF FRIENDSHIP, COCAINE, AND SOUTH AMERICA'S STRANGEST JAIL by Rusty Young and Thomas McFadden. Now this was a totally amazing, engaging, captivating and riveting story, the sort of which you don't usually get to hear about. It's about San Pedro Prison in La Paz Bolivia, which is the most bizarre place in the world. It's a prison unlike any other, where you have to buy your cell, and everything else, where your family can live with you and come and go, where all the conveniences of modern life can be bought for a price, and where some of the purest and best cocaine is actually manufactured and the drug trade is strong. You can get a tour of the jail, and many people do, which is how Rusty (the journalist) meets Thomas (the drug smuggling prisoner who runs the tours). We learn Thomas's story of the drug trade and how he ended up in prison and then the story of prison life and the corrupt and insane world that is it. This is the kind of underground story that you don't usually get to hear about, the investigative reporting that is uncovered and everyone is amazed.

It kinda reminded me of reading about the people who live in the tunnels under New York City - it's just so off the wall you wonder how they can even write a book about such a secret, taboo and bizarre subject. Well this book is one of the best you can read. And once you start, "Three days before I was arrested and ordered to leave the Republic of Bolivia, guards at San Pedro prison in La Paz caught me with several micro-cassettes hidden down my pants." Well you will be hooked for the long haul. This book is amazing!! And it tells a story unlike any you have ever heard before.

SUDDEN SEA by R.A. Scott. This book falls into my natural disaster weather obsession category. It's about the great hurricane of 1938 which annihilated the North East - concentrating on Long Island and Rhode Island and changing life in that area forever. It's a true story told through personal accounts and turned into a story about a day in the life of certain people whose experiences could be traced. So in the end this reads like a novel, as you follow the storm up the coast and ultimately to the destructive of homes and lives. It's awesome, in a devastating way. Totally reminded me of the book I read about the Johnstown Flood called **Sunlight in a Beautiful Garden**, for the way in which it followed the lives of people through the disaster. And on that note, check out the movie, **The Day After Tomorrow**, if you want to see some amazing natural disaster action. It's about the coming ice age that accelerates in a matter of days and annihilates New York City and the whole of the North America as it floods and then freezes. I was enthralled with that, as outlandish as it may be. I loved it.

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experiences of the concentration camps, an escape, being in hiding in Prague during the Nazi invasion. Whew. It's a painful story, but the scope of history and personal experience, in a fictionalized story was stunning. On a similar note I would also recommend **Beyond the Pale** by Elena Dykewoman, which is about the Pogroms in Russia at the turn of the century, and immigration to America for a young woman who organizes in the textile unions, while following alongside a midwife from her hometown in Russia. And if the plight of the Jewish people gets you as worked up as me, then I also recommend the movie **The Pianist**, which is an epic and heavy movie about one man's survival. Thus far I have not tired of these stories about the plights of the downtrodden peoples, whether from religious, ethnic or cultural reasons. So if you have any recommendations, please let me know. (-Chns)

THE ENEMY'S WITHIN by Jimmy Rejcek

I'm beyond pleased of the recent array of "punk" books being published these days, by cool distributors. I feel like this is another step up for us in the DIY scene. It seems as if we're at a real high point here with getting the music, zines, and now books out, in a cool, organized, affordable, DIY as fuck fashion. Kudos to those who appreciate, behind the scene publishers for getting these out there. Unfortunately, this book sucks total ass. Comprised mostly of autobiographical work with a few short fiction stories thrown in. "It describes me from ages 14-23 and serves as a manual for how to live like a punk. In other words, I knew I was in for an agonizing read from the get-go. Well, pretty much his "manual" he lays out for you goes like this: work G.G. Allen, drink a lot, try desperately to shock/offend people, etc. The writing here is not the best, but perhaps due to my low expectations of anyone who claims to an "authority" on punk, it's not as horrendous as I originally braced myself for. Lacks any character development outside of himself. Which wouldn't be that bad since the bulk of this is autobiographical. But as it unfolds, I really wish he wouldn't have, ahem, "developed" himself. He basically outlines about a period of time in his life where he drank a lot, tried to find women to sleep with him, piss off his parents (who he lived with a times) and try to start bands. I'm not going to go into a few little short stories he threw in here. It's of the same ilk. It won't offer anyone anything the rest of this book does. Reading this was kinda like going to a party, being cornered by a drunk in a G.G. shirt, said offender striking up a conversation with you that lasts for hours, and not being able to get away, while having to remain sober the whole time. Sound fun? I guess this could be of interest for fans of the author's former band, the Dimestore Hologs. If mentioned G.G. Allen a lot in this review, it's because he mentioned the man WAY too much in this book. Ughh. (\$8/Blueboy Productions/115 W. Quantum St. #203 Quincy, MA 02171). (-Andy)

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involved with books such as this one (PO Box 32780/Detroit, MI 48244 or upsidetowncollective@yahoo.com) (Doug)

THE BUKOWSKI HANGOVER PROJECT edited by Victor Thorn.

This book has made the rounds a couple of times within my immediate circle of friends so I thought I'd give it a proper review in Slug and Lettuce. The Bukowski Hangover Project is basically the last gasp from Babel Magazine, and features a lot of poetry and prose from the more frequent contributors to Victor Thorn and Co. I tend to dislike a lot of writing within that format, mostly because there are so many weak writers out there and I like my writing like I like my music-hard, loud, dirty, and mean. This is exactly how I'd describe this book. The Bukowski Hangover Project doesn't pretend to be anything that will win literary awards or gain respect among college professors. Rather, it hits hard, straight between the eyes with no bullshit and no chaser. There are a few funny moments in this book (see Karl Koweski's "Eulogy for a Writer Who Obviously Never Read Beyond Bukowski"), but the book leans towards the more hardcore side of things without losing originality or style. There are some moments that are better than others, but if you're in the mood for a good poetic ass-whipping then The Bukowski Hangover Project is for you. (PO Box 10495/State College, PA 16805-0495 or sisypus1285@cs.com) (Doug)

NO RETREAT - The Secret War Between Britain's Anti-Fascists and the Far-Right By Dave Hann and Steve Tilzey

No Retreat is a book that will shock and dismay the pacifist wing of the anti-fascist movement. It deals with the ugly underbelly of politics where the



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the feeling that they are, in fact, rather proud of themselves and their actions. That's not to say that this is a book that is solely concerned with macho brawling. It poses questions for anyone involved in progressive politics, questions such as how political parties respond to the needs and requirements of the great mass of ordinary people who might one day be attracted to fascist ideas. It asks how we organize amongst ourselves to ensure that everyone is given a full and equal say, and how we stop leadership cults developing within our own organizations.

All in all, this book should be essential reading for anyone involved in the fight against fascism. The commitment and determination that the two authors show throughout this book is truly astounding, and there were times when I felt truly humbled when reading it. (Milo Books £7.99) (Lou) □□□

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-- **I WILL MOVE TO EUROPE NEXT AUGUST 2004.** I'm into d-beat, raw Crust punk. I'm interested in starting a new band, so if you are looking for a mexican punk drummer (ex-absolucion) send an email to <somberdecay@yahoo.com>. diy punks never die! www.dogmadestroyer.tk

-- **HIGH PRIEST OF ECLECTIC WICCA**, goth, 17 piercings, tattooed, write poetry and play violin, animal lover, love all types of rock and classical music. If you want to know more, write me please. Demetris Ke Koa Harrington #931796/Torres Unit/125 Pvt Rd. 4303/Hondo TX 78861

-- **FRAME OF CHOICE ZINE DISTRO** is looking to distro your zine and help preserve and maintain the zine community. Please send your project to: Frame of Choice/240 E. Kline Ave./Lansford PA 18232 <artcriminal@riseup.net>

-- **MIDWEST BOOKS TO PRISONERS, CHICAGO 2004.** We are a newly formed collective that sends much needed reading materials to prisoners in Midwest states. We are eager to send reading materials to those who are incarcerated. Please send a letter with request(s) and mailroom stipulations to: Midwest Books to Prisoners/1573 N. Milwaukee Ave PMB #460/Chicago IL 60622 <mwbtrp@riseup.net>

-- **22 YR. OLD PUNK** looking to meet some new friends. 7 months left till I'm free. Planning to travel. Tim Thurston TCP/1768 Shumway Hill Rd./Wellsboro PA 16901

-- **SMASH THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX!!** 24 y.o. anarcho-punk serving 102 months for shoplifting socks (really!) seeks support in educating/uplifting incarcerated sisters/brothers worldwide. Please support our resource catalog, zine library, and pen pal exchange by sending zines, info correspondence and love to: Cassidy Wheeler #14282456/82911 Beach Access Rd./Umatilla OR 97882

-- **LUZEN RECORDS/DISTRO** is a DIY punk/crust/grind/gore/death distro. For a catalog, trade, cooperation or friendship, please get in touch. Luzen Records c/o Edgar Cardenas/ PMB 106/1177 Broadway, Ste 4/Chula Vista CA 91911-2776

-- **THIEVES "BEASTS RIDING BEASTS"** LP available from Sad Party Music. \$7 US/\$10 Can/Mex/\$14 world. Write for trades and distro list. Sad Party/PO Box 8845/Mpls MN 55408

-- **REACHING OUT:** I'm a 26 y.o. male locked down 24/7 with only 6 hrs a week outside my dank one man cell. My immense solitude is not the result of my crimes against humanity, but the result of crimes committed against me by corrupt prison staff. I wish to correspond with someone who can remind me there is still a wonderful world out there, full of sunsets and trees and people. I'm hoping to expand beyond the boundaries of these concrete walls and chainlink fences. Jason Wayo #961090/Florida State Prison/7819 NW 228th St./Rialto FL 32026.

-- **STUCK IN WISCONSIN PRISON FOR GROWING BUD.** 1 year to go, then back to the NW coast home of Portland. Looking for contacts to mesh and some lost friends. Here I am in WI, I'm not dead, just on forced holiday. Write me. Tim Doffing 414825/Redgranite Corr. Inst./PO Box 925/Redgranite WI 54970

-- **A NEW ZINE, CHAOS AND FRUIT PUNCH**, is looking for albums to review, letters to print and articles to publish. Send it in. Operation Phoenix Records/PO Box 13380/Mill Creek WA 98082

-- **LOOPHOLE DISTRO: NEW ZINE DISTRO** from Boise ID. We want to get our words and ideas out there. Check us out at www.geocities.com/loopholeidistro or write 4902 Umatilla/Boise ID 83709

-- **UNMERRY MELODIES IS A NON-PROFIT DISTRO** in the Philippines. We carry huge selection of Philippine underground stuff. CDs, tapes, zines, shirts, etc. Also looking for more zines to distro. All samples sent will be traded. For trade, cooperation or friendship write to Melody/1511-D Valencia St./Sampaloc Manila 1008 Philippines. email: gabona.m@lycos.com

-- **FREE.** Got your attention didn't I. I'm Ken, doin time in the systems dungeon of doom and would like to hook up with people in the free world. Into tattoos, music, art, poetry, fun and much more. Write me and let's see where it goes. Ken Ewing #751850/Wash State Pen IMU/1313 N 13th Ave/Walla Walla WA 99362

-- **ANARCHIST PUNK THAT NEEDS SOMEONE TO WRITE TO.** 37 y.o. white male. Looking for anyone that hates the USA and that is a true anarchist. I will write all back. John Maxey 975395/Indiana State Prison/PO Box 41/Michigan City IN 46361

-- **IF YOU OPEN YOUR MIND FOR ME** you won't rely on open eyes to see; the walls you built within will come crumbling down a new world will begin (Queens' Rynche). Intelligent, aspiring writer and avid reader (Thoreau, Emerson, Nietzsche, King, Jr, Ayn Rand, etc) seeks the friendship of someone who's active-minded, pensive and eager to participate in and co-read the intellectual revolution. Write to: James Curtis #984533/WSP/1313 N 13th Ave/Walla Walla WA 99362

-- **GRAF ARTISTS!** Punk graf zine wants your flics, stories, etc. Esp seeking graffiti of a political nature, billboard alterations, and the like. All submissions considered. Send to Bob F/1429 SW 14th Ave #508/PDX OR 97201

-- **WIZARD, WHO IS A POW OF SOCIETY AND A MIA FROM NYC,** is slowly going insane. Looking to correspond with the outside world and anyone willing to share thoughts, opinions, ideas, etc. Write to Al/Bear to V Sanabria 92A3536/Altona Corr Facility/555 Devil's Den Rd/Altona NY 12910

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And last, and almost best was **Fires in the Dark** by Louise Doughty. I picked this up at Book Woman in Austin, and this was one of those books that I was drawn to, read the summary, and knew if I had to have one book it would be this one. It's about Gypsies in Czechoslovakia during the great depression of the 1930s on through to the World War II. We have numerous stories about the plight of the Jews during this time period, but I can't say that I've ever read about the Gypsies, who suffered from the same genocide. I was particularly taken with this story because it puts you in the time and place of these proud nomadic people, and also takes you through the

apreciated, behind the scenes of getting there. Unfortunately, this book sucks total ass. Comprised mostly of autobiographical work with a few short fiction stories thrown in. "It describes me from ages 14-23 and serves as a manual for how to live like a punk. In other words, I knew I was in for an agonizing read from the get-go. Well, pretty much his "manual" he lays out for you goes like this; worship GG Allin, drink a lot, try desperately to shock/offend people, etc. The writing here is not the best, but perhaps due to my low expectations of anyone who claims to an "authority" on punk, it's not as horrendous as I originally braced myself for. Lacks any character development outside of himself. Which wouldn't be that bad since the bulk of this is autobiographical. But as it unfolds, I really wish he wouldn't have, ahem, "developed" himself. He basically outlines about a period of time in his life where he drank a lot, tried to find women to sleep with him, piss off his parents (who he lived with a times) and try to start bands. I'm not going to go into a few little short stories he threw in here. It's of the same ilk. It won't offer anyone anything the rest of this book does. Reading this was kinda like going to a party, being cornered by a drunk in a G.G. shirt, said offender striking up a conversation with you that lasts for hours, and not being able to get away, while having to remain sober the whole time. Sound fun? I guess this could be of interest for fans of the author's former band, the Dimostore Haloes. If I mentioned G.G. Allen a lot in this review, it's because he mentioned the man WAY too much in this book. Ughh. (\$8/Blueboy Productions/115 W. Squantum St. #203/Quincy, MA 02171). (-Andy)

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(edited by the upsidedownculture collective):

I'm always stoked on hearing about new goings on as far as media collectives (especially in the Midwest), so I approached All the Days After with a lot of energy. This book is essentially what it claims to be: a collection of poetry and artwork centered around the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City. I think it's safe to say that that event changed US foreign policy forever, regardless of who or what is responsible for the worst terrorist attack ever carried out on the United States. All of the writing in this book is critical of how the United States carries itself in terms of the rest of the world. In terms of content, my main criticism of this book would be that a lot of the writing falls short of having an immediate impact upon the reader. There are exceptions to this, most notably the writing of Shailja Patel, whose poem "Eater of Death" is about losing her husband and seven children in an US air attack on Kabul, Afghanistan. It is this piece that really drove home the effects of how the United States is supposedly combating terrorism while thousands of innocent people are injured and killed, only to be labeled as "collateral damage" once the casualty reports come in. Patel writes, "Have they no mothers, no children in America?" which makes for a particularly haunting piece of writing.

All the Days After also includes a lot of artwork that illustrates the point of the book well. In fact, I would say that the artwork in this book overcomes the writing in terms of leaving its mark on the reader. Most of the poetry seems as though it was either written to win a poetry slam, or is so mired with metaphors that it takes a couple of reads to figure out what's going on. I thought the writing of Amiri Baraka was an odd inclusion as well, mostly from having studied his work for a while in school and getting a lot of separatist overtones from his writing. All the Days After is worth checking out, but I would have liked to have seen more international points of view included-especially those who don't have the luxury of a DIY publisher at hand. I would also like to hear more from the upsidedownculture collective as well, including some biographical info on the writers

some moments that are better than others, but if you're in the mood for a good poetic ass-whipping then The Bukowski Hangover Project is for you. (PO Box 10495/State College, PA 16805-0495 or sisypus1285@cs.com) (Doug)

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 -- **THIEVES "BEASTS RIDING BEASTS"** LP available from Sad Party Music. \$7 US/\$10 Can/Mex \$14 world. Write for trades and distro list. Sad Party/PO Box 8845/Mpls MN 55408
 -- **REACHING OUT:** I'm a 26 y.o. male locked down 24/7 with only 6 hrs a week outside my dank one man cell. My immense solitude is not the result of my crimes against humanity, but the result of crimes committed against me by corrupt prison staff. I wish to correspond with someone who can remind me there is still a wonderful world out there, full of sunsets and trees and people. I'm hoping to expand beyond the boundaries of these concrete walls and chainlink fences. Jason Wayo #961090/Florida State Prison/7819 NW 228th St/Rialford FL 32026
 -- **STUCK IN WISCONSIN PRISON FOR GROWING BUD.** 1 year to go, then back to the NW coast home of Portland. Looking for contacts to me there and some lost friends. Here I am in WI, I'm not dead, just on forced isolation. Write me. Tim Doffing 414825/Redgranite Corr. Inst./PO Box 925/Redgranite WI 54970
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 -- **FREE.** Got your attention didn't I. I'm Ken, doin time in the systems dungeon of doom and would like to hook up with people in the free world. Into tattoos, music, art, poetry, fun and much more. Write me and let's see where it goes. Ken Ewing #751850/Wash State Pen IMU/ 1313 N 13th Ave./Walla Walla WA 99362
 -- **ANARCHIST PUNK THAT NEEDS SOMEONE TO WRITE TO.** 37 y.o. white male. Looking for anyone that hates the USA and that is a true anarchist. I will write all back John Maxey 975395/Indiana State Prison/PO Box 41/Michigan City IN 46361
 -- **IF YOU OPEN YOUR MIND FOR ME** you won't rely on open eyes to see, the walls you built within, will come crumbling down a new world will begin. (Queens' Ryché). Intelligent, aspiring writer and avid reader (Thoreau, Emerson, Nietzsche, King, Jr, Ayn Rand, etc) seeks the friendship of someone who's active-minded, principled and eager to participate in and co-read the intellectual revolution. Write to: James Curtis #984533/WSP/ 1313 N 13th Ave./Walla Walla WA 99362
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WORKING POOR



SUDDEN SEA by R.A. Scott This book falls into my natural disaster weather obsession category. It's about the great hurricane of 1938 which annihilated the North East - concentrating on Long Island and Rhode Island and changing life in that area forever. It's a true story told through personal accounts and turned into a story about a day in the life of certain people whose experiences could be traced. So in the end this reads like a novel, as you follow the storm up the coast and ultimately to the destructive of homes and lives. It's awesome, in a devastating way. Totally reminded me of the book I read about the Johnstown Flood called **Sunlight in a Beautiful Garden**, for the way in which it followed the lives of people through the disaster. And on that note, check out the movie, **The Day After Tomorrow**, if you want to see some amazing natural disaster action. It's about the coming ice age that accelerates in a matter of days and annihilates New York City and the whole of the North America as it floods and then freezes. I was enthralled with that, as outlandish as it may be. I loved it.

And last, and almost best was **Fires in the Dark** by Louise Doughty. I picked this up at Book Woman in Austin, and this was one of those books that I was drawn to, read the summary, and knew if I had to have one book it would be this one. It's about Gypsies in Czechoslovakia during the great depression of the 1930s on through to the World War II. We have numerous stories about the plight of the Jews during this time period, but I can't say that I've ever read about the Gypsies, who suffered from the same genocide. I was particularly taken with this story because it puts you in the time and place of these proud nomadic people, and also takes you through the

a lot of energy. This book is essentially what it claims to be, a collection of poetry and artwork centered around the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City. I think it's safe to say that that event changed US foreign policy forever, regardless of who or what is responsible for the worst terrorist attack ever carried out on the United States. All of the writing in this book is critical of how the United States carries itself in terms of the rest of the world. In terms of content, my main criticism of this book would be that a lot of the writing falls short of having an immediate impact upon the reader. There are exceptions to this, most notably the writing of Shailja Patel, whose poem "Eater of Death" is about losing her husband and seven children in an US air attack on Kabul, Afghanistan. It is this piece that really drove home the effects of how the United States is supposedly combating terrorism while thousands of innocent people are injured and killed, only to be labeled as "collateral damage" once the casualty reports come in. Patel writes, "Have they no mothers, no children in America?" which makes for a particularly haunting piece of writing.

All the Days After also includes a lot of artwork that illustrates the point of the book well. In fact, I would say that the artwork in this book overscores the writing in terms of leaving its mark on the reader. Most of the poetry seems as though it was either written to win a poetry slam, or is so mired with metaphors that it takes a couple of reads to figure out what's going on. I thought the writing of Amiri Baraka was an odd inclusion as well, mostly from having studied his work for a while in school and getting a lot of separatist overtones from his writing. All the Days After is worth checking out, but I would have liked to have seen more international points of view included-especially those who don't have the luxury of a DIY publisher at hand. I would also like to hear more from the upsidedowncollective as well, including some biographical info on the writers

when I felt truly humbled when reading it. (Milo Books £7.99) (Lou) [1]

GUI-TARS AND SCREAMS -

PUNK & HARDCORE IN CZECH

This is a book of the history of the Czech punk scene. It's a proper bound book, about 3/4 inch thick, put together well with loads of photos and well it's awesome. Even though most of it is in Czech, and I can't read the majority of the book. There is an English summary in the back which explains the political climate of Czechoslovakia in the '70s, when it was under communist rule and extreme censorship. Needless to say this meant that punks and punk music was completely underground as well as extremely isolated. The hostile environment of police repression still managed to produce a unique and strong punk movement. This book explains the times and the various strains of punk that developed in the '70s and through the 80s with an ever changing political climate that even when accepting was still completely intolerant to the non-conformist outspoken nature of punk rock. We get a history of the bands chronicled with the ever growing changes with the times, that which was somewhat tolerated and that which remained totally radical. There were no punk records before 1989, only tapes if they were lucky. This brief history which I could read in English is only a small introduction to what this book covers in large detail. It really gives us Westerners an appreciation for just how difficult it was to be punk in Eastern Europe and just how much things have changed. I think this book is invaluable to have for any punk interested in the international scene, even if you can not read most of it, it still serves as a crucial document to a place and time of developing punk rock that is really amazing. (Filip Fuchs/Crohova 39/60200 Bmo Czech Rep/orba@seznam.cz) (-Chris)

and would like to hook up with people in the free world. Into tattoos, music, art, poetry, fun and much more. Write me and let's see where it goes. Ken Ewing #751850/Wash State Pen IMU/1313 N 13th Ave/Walla Walla WA 99362

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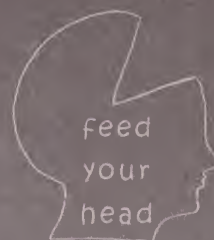
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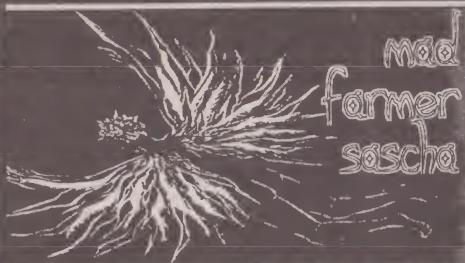
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C O L U M N S



Adventures in the Land of Greasecars and Fireflies

"Are you ready?" I glanced nervously over at my friend Jolie in the passenger seat as we drove along the curvy twilight road. She was staring back at me with wide excited eyes. "Uh-huh. Do it." I flipped the switch on the dashboard from MAIN to AUX and waited for the little car to lose power with that particular tenseness I hold in my jaw that I've gotten used to when driving sketchy vehicles. We waited. And waited. Nothing changed. If we'd routed the system correctly the car was drawing fuel from the new auxiliary tank in the trunk. "Goddamn - I think it's working!" The car's running on straight vegetable oil! The two of us were suddenly grinning face screaming out the windows with excitement. It was like we'd suddenly slipped out of the gasoline war matrix that's managed to grab the whole world by the throat - we were sneaking past the system by feeding its waste right back into itself. A moment later the exhaust pipe went from smelling like diesel to smelling like used fryer grease and the whole thing was so amazing and surreal we just felt high on life and freedom. The two of us were just a couple miles outside New Paltz on highway 4455 - heading over the Shawangunks back home to the wild side of the ridge. It was one of the last days of spring in the Hudson Valley - the sun was setting, there was thick air warm on our skin and the fireflies were just beginning to arrive for the season - lighting up the night sky like shooting stars.

I. Old Time Lessons From the Open Road

Unlike most Americans, I never had much of a desire to drive a car. Cars always scared the hell out of me - they always struck me as a good way to get yourself killed or more likely get yourself stuck working a job you hated so you could pay for insurance and gas and repairs. I saw the trap all around me from a young age and I wanted no part of it. I grew up in a city with really good public transportation anyway - one of the only places in the country where it's common for people to never learn how to drive. I come from a long line of New York City folk who rode the subway and took the bus across town to go to work. My dad died never learning how to drive, to me it always seemed like somewhat of a family tradition. Bicycles are way more practical form of transportation in urban areas, and my friends and I all had bikes, so driving really never became much of an issue until I finally decided that I didn't want to be a city boy anymore and I wanted to be able to live out in the woods. But even after escaping the city, I managed to avoid driving for years.

Like a bunch of my fellow anarchist traveling friends, learning how to ride freight trains and hitchhike when I was 20 was the equivalent of a mainstream suburban kid getting a driver's license and a family car. It made me feel like for the first time in my life I had the freedom to go wherever I wanted and visit places I'd only ever seen on maps or heard about in stories. But the big difference from having a car was that with this new knowledge of the road came the responsibility of having to acquire a whole set of other skills. I had to really learn how to talk to strangers - find common ground and shared language with folks who grew up really different than I had. I needed to find my way in strange lands without having a familiar space to retreat to and I had to learn to deal with bizarre situations and always be able to think on my toes and live out of a backpack. I needed to learn how to make friends quickly and put my trust in kindness. These were such important lessons to have and skills to learn, pieces of old time knowledge sometimes whispered under train bridges in the middle of the night or in the cabs of semi trucks driving through the desert and generally the kind of stuff that's only gleaned from hanging amidst the unfamiliar and the unknown.

These days there are so few people living that old traveling life anymore. Looking around the world today it becomes painfully clear that people are really scared of each other and we live in a society so fueled by fear that it even allows people with enough money to never have to talk to anyone else. So if you can eat out every meal, stay in a motel every night, and fill up your gas tank whenever it's running low, you have the option of never having to engage with anyone on more than a surface level, ever. Never mind the economic elite who exist in their own reality bubble away from the rest of us and probably have their own dysfunctional dilemmas. I'm just talking about the average middle-class American who doesn't know how to talk to his neighbors, let alone some strangers at a gas station or the people who live across town. I never aspired to be a person like that. In fact, since my early teenage years I've worked really hard to make sure

learn how to interact with each other from watching horrible Hollywood movies and inane TV talk shows. We learn what the rest of the world is like through the cultural lenses of the people who oppress us and because of this, ridiculous and twisted stereotypes get burned into our tender brains before we have a chance to even know what's been done to us. These are traps of the modern world, so easy to fall into with our traditional social safety nets cut and our cultural histories washed away in the drowning amnesiac tide of consumer conveniences and corporate monoculture thinking. In a world where we're all pitted against each other for the dollar, taught to fear each other in the classrooms and from the newspapers and all the other images we're constantly inundated with, so many of us end up looking only to our wallets or the government for security. Inevitably, tragically, we watch out for the ones closest to us and leave the doors locked and windows rolled up when we're driving through unfamiliar territory.

This is what the world of cars and driving always represented to me: a ticket to be like everyone else I didn't want to be like, a ticket straight into the hands of the System. But it's much easier to criticize things from the outside, look with contempt at all the people driving in their little air conditioned boxes while you're sweating out on the highway waiting for the kindness of a stranger to emerge from a blur of speeding multicolored metal and stone cold faces. It's also easier to do romantic things like ride freight trains around the country and always be the exciting person just passing through town if you don't have anywhere you have to be or anyone relying on you for anything important. Traveling on the fringes of the System, though it can be full of magic and potential and freedom, has its own little world full of alienating privileges and strange social pitfalls.

It's really such an archetypal punk rock thing if you think about it, being that loner standing on the outside looking in with anger and contempt. It's definitely one of the defining features of a subculture to look at the outside world with fear and distrust. It's a powerful mechanism for maintaining traditions and codes of behavior in the face of cultural homogenization (look it up in the sociology books, punk.) Do you remember how scared we all were by the Internet? How the thought of communicating through email seemed alien and cold? It wasn't that long ago! I remember the summer of 1998 when Dragonforce Dan rode freight trains all over the country and sent me emails about his adventures from public libraries in places like Pocatello, Idaho and Ogden, Utah. That's when I knew for sure the email thing was here to stay. No matter how alienating and foreign, eventually if we're clever we learn to make the system work for us. And it's a rare person I cross paths with now who doesn't have an email address. These days the train hopping traveler kids I meet either use those free 888 voice mail lines or even have their own cell phones to stay in touch with each other, and almost everyone uses the Internet for something, if they don't already have their own webpages and blogs. Times change, people adapt, the world moves on and creates whole new riddles and lessons for us if we know how to listen close enough to the mystery language and connect some of the seemingly alien dots.

II. The Forgotten Era of the Punk Rock Chingers

Not so many years ago a lot of my friends and I used to drop 25 bucks at Radio Shack for these little electronic tone dialers that we could reprogram to simulate the sound of quarters going into a payphone. Before cell phones and the Internet, this is how a lot of us communicated with each other across the country. Tone dialers were actually created in that window of time in the 80s when telephones were switching over between the rotary system and the touchtone, and people needed to access their new fangled tone-operated answering machines from rotary phones. I suppose some people continued to use them to program their phone

receiver and pushed the button. Five consecutive programmed "chings" tricked the phone into thinking a quarter was being deposited. And a chinger had an infinite supply of chings. This is how we outsmarted the system and talked to our friends without having to pay. In a world where the System is so monolithic and brutal, where the phone company has direct ties to the nuclear arms industry, where their corporate insignias look straight out of Darth Vader's Death Star from Star Wars, and where we obviously all wanted to work as little as possible so we could concentrate on being Anarchist Revolutionaries, it was a pretty cool trick. It was like finding a loophole in the communication grid, a clever way to slip through the cracks and use their infrastructure for our needs.

By the time I started using my chinger, only certain payphones worked on the old tone system, but those of us with chingers in our pockets knew where they were in all the major cities, just like we knew where the good dumpsters behind the stores were to feed ourselves. Some of those chinger phone spots became like space/time portals to me - I'd spend long nights on the phone with my friends out west, pumping my fake quartertones into the machine every couple minutes. When I was 19 years old, the entire first tour of my band was booked from an old telephone on 8th Street and Avenue C with the use of a chinger and a list of venue contacts. But that was so long ago, things change fast in this modern world. I hardly even recognize that block anymore. Round the millennium the phone companies finally

switched over to a system that didn't recognize the old tones, and the era of the Traveling Punks with the Chingers in Their Pockets got relegated to a piece of obscure history you're reading about right now but probably won't be hearing about anywhere else. III. Welcome Back to the Year 2004

You may have noticed that there's a war going on in Iraq right now and the war is so obviously primarily about oil and the money being made off of it. About building pipelines through the desert and securing future energy reserves, government lies to big business interests and corporate contracts to rebuild decimated economies. Those of us with our eyes open know how wrong the whole thing is, but as a society we're addicted to it like a drug. Fossil fuels are the lifeblood of the System. Oil and gas are the backbone of capital-intensive industrial production because they provide the energy for transportation, for industry, and for mechanized agriculture. Our society as we know it would

grind to a halt if we suddenly didn't have access to cheap fuel, and there are a small amount of people who control the fuel who are quite skilled at maintaining that control. Everything in the grocery store is there for us to buy because of subsidized oil paid for in blood. The gas we pump at the station is subsidized by the same misery and carnage. We don't want to think about it, so most of us don't. The same disconnect that allows us to live a life where we don't need to talk to our neighbors is the same disconnect that allows us the ability to shut out logic when it's right in front of our eyes and staring us in the face. The politicians on TV might say it's about "Weapons of Mass Destruction" or "Protecting Freedom and Democracy" but we all know that it's just about keeping the system running - and low and behold: the system runs on cheap oil.

History is capable of making so many twists and turns - the hyper-petroleum dependent world we live in now was not always so inevitable. The diesel engine, which is still used today for all long hauling and heavy machinery because it's superior in strength and reliability to the gasoline engine, was first exhibited at the 1900 World Exhibition in Paris - and Dr. Rudolf Diesel actually had it running on straight peanut oil! It was a powerful engine, which used compressed air and oil without the use of a spark to create an ignition. Dr. Diesel, 34 years old at the time, designed his engine to run on various oils all of which could be grown by regional

cleaner 70 percent less particulate matter into the air, 40 percent fewer hydrocarbons, no sulfur emissions. If we could produce the fuel for our engines from crops that we grew in this country - safflower, soybeans, canola, corn - why would we need to go all the way across the world and kill people? But we already know the answer because it's the same old story: they've created a need for something they've got and they want us coming back for more. It's the cursed logic of the marketplace: in order for the system to "work", it's necessary to make people need what they don't have. If they can do it themselves, you have to take away their ability to do it themselves. This applies across the board - whether it's farmers in the developing world saving their own seeds or kids in the suburbs producing their own music. When it gets to be too much of a threat, the system clamps down - they figure out some way to take away the power, and then they sell it back to us. And in this modern world, everything comes back to oil.

This can obviously all be pretty demoralizing if you feel things strongly in the world and have the blessing or curse of being able to connect some of the scary dots. Maybe, like me, you swore you'd never be doing it, but suddenly one day you find yourself filling up at the station with everyone else, eating your morals and choking on gas fumes. And it feels horrible and humiliating, standing at the pump watching the dial ring up gallon after gallon spending your hard earned money to fuel the war machine. You know it's only a matter of time before it's all going to blow or collapse in on itself, but for now it feels like a slow, depressing, bloody, painful, social and ecological catastrophe that you're participating in. But deep inside, waiting around the corner, you know there are other ways and it's probably time you start working on them.

IV. Strange Twists of Fate and Planted Seeds

I first heard about it one snowy night back in 1995 when this woman showed a video called *Living Off the Fat of the Land* at the anarchist bookstore I hung out at on Avenue B. The video was about a group of women from San Francisco who drove across the country in a diesel van they fueled on used vegetable oil that they got for free from fast food restaurants. In order to do it they mixed the waste oil with methanol and lye and heated it - a chemical process that separated the glycerin molecules from the oil and replaced them with alcohol - thereby making the liquid combustible. This was very impressive to all of us, to say the least.

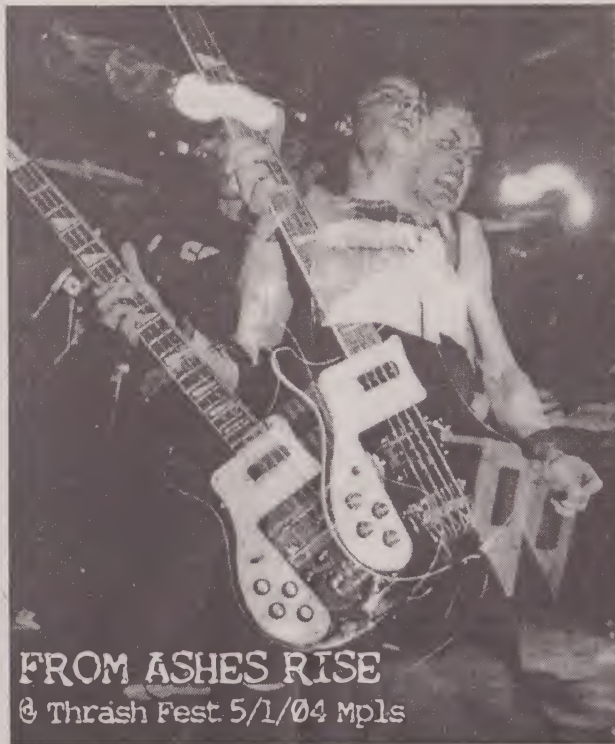
By a strange twist of fate that still makes me smile to myself sometimes when I think about it, that same winter I ended up studying Spanish at this language school in Guatemala and ended up meeting this couple, Kaia and Josh Tickell, who were college students from Sarasota, Florida. One night over dinner I was telling them about the video I'd seen, about the women running their car on vegetable oil and driving across the country. Josh was a really bright kid with a lot of vision and I remember his eyes got all big: "What an amazing idea!" The following year Kaia and Josh ended up buying a big old Winnebago RV, painting it all hippie green and blue and full of sunflowers and calling it the "Veggie Van." As part of their senior thesis for college they ran the Veggie Van on used grease from fast food restaurants and drove it all across the country. They were slick enough to get all kinds of corporate sponsorship and get on Good Morning America, and they ended up inspiring a whole lot of folks all over the place.

Since that time a whole thriving movement of people who are making what they call Biodiesel, fuel for diesel engines made from vegetable oil, has really taken off and Josh has been at the forefront of it all, actually making his living running the veggievan.com website and getting paid to speak in front of crowds about the future of sustainable energy. But even back in those early days, Josh and I would argue about what that future was going to look like. He was dead set convinced that the only way we could save the planet was to get the big oil companies to invest in sustainable technology, which could then be available to the masses. I told him that there was nothing sustainable about convincing everyone that it's okay to drive as much as they want and handing over all the power over to corporations which, by their very nature, will never have any regard for human life or the health of the planet. The only vision that made sense to me was a more localized one, where farms could produce oil crops and there could be fuel cooperatives with a much greater emphasis on public transportation and community control. But that was a while ago, life has moved on, and needless to say Josh Tickell makes a lot more money than I do.

Meanwhile, some years later, I have all these friends, from Oregon to Maine, who are making their own biodiesel and running it in their diesel engines. I know folks out in Oakland making biodiesel in their garage and there are biodiesel fueling stations up in northern California. I keep hearing about new cooperatives starting up all the time. These days you can even buy a pre-made biodiesel processor from the people out at Real Goods in California. The idea is actually filtering into the mainstream. Then, in the middle of last summer, my friend Quinn showed up in New Paltz from North Carolina with a Ford F-250 truck she and her crew had converted to run on *straight vegetable oil*. They had bought a kit from a company called Greasel in Missouri that altered their truck to be able to burn straight grease without having to add any extra chemicals into the mix. Shortly thereafter my buddy Kevin drove his friend's old diesel Mercedes that had also been converted using a Greasel kit all the way across the country. So amidst all of this, I started having fantasies about converting my own greasecar.

V. The Greasecar

The conversion of a diesel car to run on grease isn't really that complicated compared to lots of other things in the world. The basic idea is that a regular diesel engine will run on vegetable oil as long as the oil is hot enough to not clog the fuel injectors. Straight vegetable oil at room temperature will clog the system



like diesel (used by me) just left high on life and freedom. The two of us were just a couple miles outside New Paltz on highway 44-55 — heading over the Shawangunks back home to the wild side of the ridge. It was one of the last days of spring in the Hudson Valley — the sun was setting, there was thick air warm on our skin and the fireflies were just beginning to arrive for the season — lighting up the night sky like shooting stars.

I. Old Time Lessons From the Open Road

Unlike most Americans, I never had much of a desire to drive a car. Cars always scared the hell out of me — they always struck me as a good way to get yourself killed or more likely get yourself stuck working a job you hated so you could pay for insurance and gas and repairs. I saw the trap all around me from a young age and I wanted no part of it. I grew up in a city with really good public transportation anyway — one of the only places in the country where it's common for people to never learn how to drive. I come from a long line of New York City folk who rode the subway and took the bus across town to go to work. My dad died never learning how to drive, to me it always seemed like somewhat of a family tradition. Bicycles are way more practical form of transportation in urban areas, and my friends and I all had bikes, so driving really never became much of an issue until I finally decided that I didn't want to be a city boy anymore and I wanted to be able to live out in the woods. But even after escaping the city, I managed to avoid driving for years.

Like a bunch of my fellow anarchist traveling friends, learning how to ride freight trains and hitchhike when I was 20 was the equivalent of a mainstream suburban kid getting a driver's license and a family car. It made me feel like for the first time in my life I had the freedom to go wherever I wanted and visit places I'd only even seen on maps or heard about in stories. But the big difference from having a car was that with this new knowledge of the road came the responsibility of having to acquire a whole set of other skills. I had to really learn how to talk to strangers — find common ground and shared language with folks who grew up really different than I had. I needed to find my way in strange lands without having a familiar space to retreat to and I had to learn to deal with bizarre situations and always be able to think on my toes and live out of a backpack. I needed to learn how to make friends quickly and put my trust in kindness. These were such important lessons to have and skills to learn, pieces of old time knowledge sometimes whispered under train bridges in the middle of the night or in the cabs of semi trucks driving through the desert and generally the kind of stuff that's only gleaned from hanging amidst the unfamiliar and the unknown.

These days there are so few people living that old traveling life anymore. Looking around the world today it becomes painfully clear that people are really scared of each other and we live in a society so fueled by fear that it even allows people with enough money to never have to talk to anyone else. So if you can eat out every meal, stay in a motel every night, and fill up your gas tank whenever it's running low, you have the option of never having to engage with anyone on more than a surface level, ever. Never mind the economic elite who exist in their own reality bubble away from the rest of us and probably have their own dysfunctional dilemmas. I'm just talking about the average middle-class American who doesn't know how to talk to his neighbors, let alone some strangers at a gas station or the people who live across town. I never aspired to be a person like that. In fact, since my early teenage years I've worked really hard to make sure I'd never become a person like that.

But it seems to get harder all the time for those of us who aspire to a life of meaningful interactions and soulful connections: every year it seems like we get closer to a world where self check-out scanning bar code machines, Paypal, Amazon Internet shopping, and swiping cards in front of digital displays replace any kind of human contact we once had in the marketplace or out in the streets or on the road. Travel and Vacation are big industries that colonize whole areas of the world and whole areas of our mass media soaked consciousness. People

where you have to be or anywhere you want to go for anything important. Traveling on the fringes of the System, though it can be full of magic and potential and freedom, has its own little world full of alienating privileges and strange social pitfalls.

It's really such an archetypal punk rock thing if you think about it, being that loner standing on the outside looking in with anger and contempt. It's definitely one of the defining features of a subculture to look at the outside world with fear and distrust. It's a powerful mechanism for maintaining traditions and codes of behavior in the face of cultural homogenization (look it up in the sociology books, punk.) Do you remember how scared we all were by the Internet? How the thought of communicating through email seemed alien and cold? It wasn't that long ago. I remember the summer of 1998 when Dragonface Dan rode freight trains all over the country and sent me emails about his adventures from public libraries in places like Pocatello, Idaho and Ogden, Utah. That's when I knew for sure the email thing was here to stay. No matter how alienating and foreign, eventually if we're clever we learn to make the system work for us. And it's a rare person I cross paths with now who doesn't have an email address. These days the train hopping traveler kids I meet either use those free 888 or almost everyone uses the Internet for something, if they don't already have their own webpages and blogs. Times change, people adapt, the world moves on and creates whole new riddles and lessons for us if we know how to listen close enough to the mystical language and connect some of the seemingly alien dots.

II. The Forgotten Era of the Punk Rock Chingers

Not so many years ago a lot of my friends and I used to drop 25 bucks at Radio Shack for these little electronic tone dialers that we could reprogram to simulate the sound of quarters going into a payphone. Before cell phones and the Internet, this is how a lot of us communicated with each other across the country. Tone dialers were actually created in that window of time in the 80s when telephones were switching over between the rotary system and the touchtone, and people needed to access their new fangled tone-operated answering machines from rotary phones. I suppose some people continued to use them to program their phone numbers and they were just one more piece of electronic garbage made in Chinese factories and sold at identical strip malls around our Great Nation, destined for obsolescence. The dialers were about the size of a cell phone, tiny black boxes; they could easily fit in your pocket. We would buy them, open up the back with a little screwdriver, use a soldering iron to replace one of the microprocessor crystals responsible for making a specific tone with a similarly shaped but different tone crystal, and put the whole thing back together carefully. We called them "chingers", thus named for the "ching" sound they made when you held them up to a payphone



FROM ASHES RISE & Thrash Fest 5/1/04 mpls

grind to a halt if we suddenly didn't have access to cheap fuel, and there are a small amount of people who control the fuel who are quite skilled at maintaining that control. Everything in the grocery store is there for us to buy because of subsidized oil paid for in blood. The gas we pump at the station is subsidized by the same misery and carnage. We don't want to think about it, so most of us don't. The same disconnect that allows us to live a life where we don't need to talk to our neighbors is the same disconnect that allows us the ability to shut out logic when it's right in front of our eyes and staring us in the face. The politicians on TV might say it's about "Weapons of Mass Destruction" or "Protecting Freedom and Democracy" but we all know that it's just about keeping the system running — and low and behold: the system runs on cheap oil.

History is capable of making so many twists and turns — the hyper-petroleum dependent world we live in now was not always so inevitable. The diesel engine, which is still used today for all long hauling and heavy machinery because it's superior in strength and reliability to the gasoline engine, was first exhibited at the 1900 World Exhibition in Paris — and Dr. Rudolf Diesel actually had it running on straight peanut oil! It was a powerful engine, which used compressed air and oil without the use of a spark to create an ignition. Dr. Diesel, 34 years old at the time, designed his engine to run on various oils all of which could be grown by regional farmers. However, the auto and petroleum industries were quick to turn the diesel engine into an opportunity to maximize use of the crude oil they used to make petroleum gasoline. Because the diesel engine is stronger, it can be run on less refined gasoline — what we call diesel fuel today is actually a byproduct of the petroleum making process. By offering both fuels at one station and coming from one source, it could maximize-profit and keep the ability to power our own engines completely out of reach of the people.

We don't hear much about fueling cars on vegetable oil, do we? It burns much

where else. I'll. Welcome Back to the Year 2004

You may have noticed that there's a war going on in Iraq right now and the war is so obviously primarily about oil and the money being made off of oil. About building pipelines through the desert and securing future energy reserves, government ties to big business interests and corporate contracts to rebuild devastated economies. Those of us with our eyes open know how wrong the whole thing is, but as a society we're addicted to it like a drug. Fossil fuels are the lifeblood of the System. Oil and gas are the backbone of capital-intensive industrial production because they provide the energy for transportation, for industry, and for mechanized agriculture. Our society as we know it would

with methanol and rye and heated in a chemical process that separated the glycerin molecules from the oil and replaced them with alcohol — thereby making the liquid combustible. This was very impressive to all of us, to say the least.

By a strange twist of fate that still makes me smile to myself sometimes when I think about it that same winter I ended up studying Spanish at this language school in Guatemala and ended up meeting this couple, Kaia and Josh Tickell, who were college students from Sarasota, Florida. One night over dinner I was telling them about the video I'd seen, about the women running their car on vegetable oil and driving across the country. Josh was a really bright kid with a lot of vision and I remember his eyes got all big: "What an amazing idea!" The following year Kaia and Josh ended up buying a big old Winnebago RV, painting it all hippie green and blue and full of sunflowers and calling it the "Veggie Van." As part of their senior thesis for college they ran the Veggie Van on used grease from fast food restaurants and drove it all across the country. They were slick enough to get all kinds of corporate sponsorship and get on Good Morning America, and they ended up inspiring a whole lot of folks all over the place.

Since that time a whole thriving movement of people who are making what they call Biodiesel, fuel for diesel engines made from vegetable oil, has really taken off and Josh has been at the forefront of it all, actually making his living running the veggievan.com website and getting paid to speak in front of crowds about the future of sustainable energy. But even back in those early days, Josh and I would argue about what that future was going to look like. He was dead set convinced that the only way we could save the planet was to get the big oil companies to invest in sustainable technology, which could then be available to the masses. I told him that there was nothing sustainable about convincing everyone that it's okay to drive as much as they want and handing over all the power over to corporations which, by their very nature, will never have any regard for human life or the health of the planet. The only vision that made sense to me was a more localized one, where farms could produce oil crops and there could be fuel cooperatives with a much greater emphasis on public transportation and community control. But that was a while ago, life has moved on, and needless to say Josh Tickell makes a lot more money than I do.

Meanwhile, some years later, I have all these friends, from Oregon to Maine, who are making their own biodiesel and running it in their diesel engines. I know folks out in Oakland making biodiesel in their garage and there are biodiesel fueling stations up in northern California. I keep hearing word about new cooperatives starting up all the time. These days you can even buy a pre-made biodiesel processor from the people out at Real Goods in California. The idea is actually filtering into the mainstream. Then, in the middle of last summer, my friend Quinn showed up in New Paltz from North Carolina with a Ford F-250 truck she and her crew had converted to run on straight vegetable oil. They had bought a kit from a company called Greasel in Missouri that altered their truck to be able to burn straight grease without having to add any extra chemicals into the mix. Shortly thereafter my buddy Kevin drove his friend's old diesel Mercedes that had also been converted using a Greasel kit all the way across the country. So amidst all of this, I started having fantasies about converting my own greasercar.

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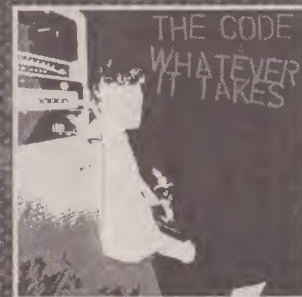
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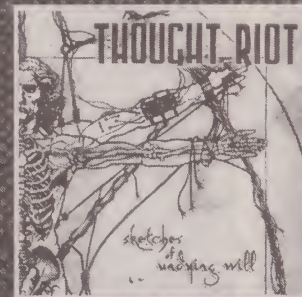
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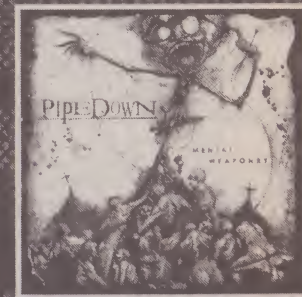
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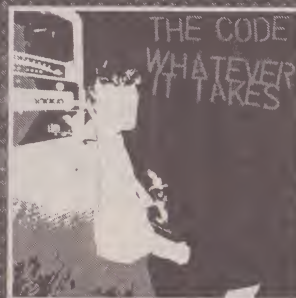


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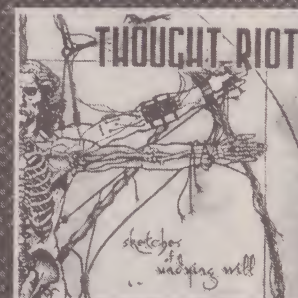
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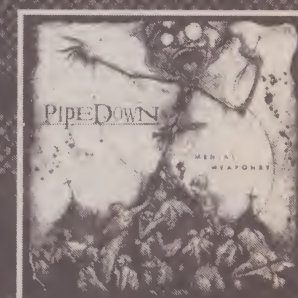
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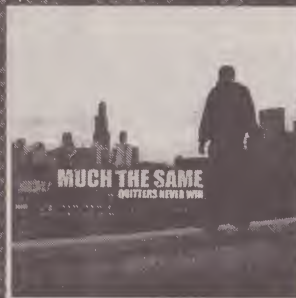
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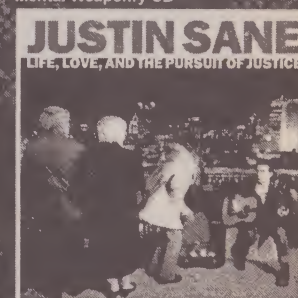
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hoses are cut and rerouted into an electronic switch, once the system is heated up, you can flip a switch on the dashboard connected to a switch under the hood, and the fuel source changes from the diesel tank to the veggie oil tank. Before you turn off the car you switch the system back to diesel so the fuel lines don't clog with congealed vegetable oil. That's pretty much the deal.

VI. Arteries and Hoses, Hearts and Engines

I always assumed that getting a car would be an alienating experience — driving along in my little box not talking to anyone. But as I discovered quickly with the purchase of my first vehicle a couple years ago, that "not ever having to talk to anyone" rule really only applies to people with new cars who have the money to always bring them into the shop. When I drove cross-country in my 1982 Toyota pickup truck I discovered that driving an old janky car was not unlike hitchhiking, a daily adventure full of joy and incredible frustration. That winter I learned how to change the oil, replace the spark plugs, clean the carburetor, replace the alternator, replace my water pump, use a screwdriver to hotwire the ignition and a hammer to unfreeze the starter, as well as meet all kinds of exciting strangers willing to hook my jumper cables up to their battery and impart all kinds of car wisdom to me. I learned that the way you learn how to work on cars and get over being intimidated by them is just to get one, wait for things to go wrong, get over feeling bad about asking for help when you don't know what the hell you're doing, and make sure you have a little time in your life to screw up and get really dirty.

One thing I've come to understand recently as I've gotten over my fear of working on cars is that despite my earlier punk rock hatred of internal combustion, they really aren't inherently evil. Cars are just machines that people created, people like you and me, and we made them in our own image, however flawed and mortal. Of course, Hummers and SUVs are these horrible manifestations of human egos gone awry, and it seems like all new cars are filled with computer chips and all kinds of crap that makes it impossible to work on them yourself, but cars, especially old cars, can have a lot of soul. The engine of a car is like a heart — instead of blood flowing through its arteries, its pumps are filled with oil and anti-freeze and gas. Just like a human body all the internal systems are connected — when one piece goes it usually sets off all kinds of chain reactions. Cars need understanding and attention to keep functioning, just like us. And like people, the more we understand them and how they work, the more time we spend with them, the less alien they seem.

VII. Obsessed with Diesels

Last winter when there were two feet of snow on the ground outside our house in the woods, I met Dave Rosenstrauss on the greasecar.com message board. Greasecar is a company out of Western Massachusetts that, like Greasel in Missouri, sells DIY conversion kits for diesel vehicles. They have a message board on their website where folks can post questions and advertise cars. Dave was selling his beat up old Ford F-350 ambulance that he'd already set up to run on veggie oil. As it turned out he lived in a punk house in Allentown, Pennsylvania with a crew of other kids, played drums in a bunch of bands, and inevitably we had a bunch of mutual connections. Dave taught himself how to do grease conversions without any background in mechanics and that was really impressive to me. Even though I decided not to buy that enormous janky old money-trap ambulance, we stayed in touch.

Meanwhile I did as much research as I could over the winter and eventually decided that the most practical and economical car to invest in would be a Volkswagen Jetta, and then I promptly began manically searching for one. I was totally obsessed, traveling across the country this spring with my partner Ashley on Icarus Project tour — and every chance I got I was online looking at page after page of used car websites. Ashley would laugh and say: "There you go looking at your Jetta Porn again..." But it paid off and I finally found one: a 1990 diesel Jetta for about as much as I could afford to pay in a place that wasn't so hard to get to. When I got back to the Hudson Valley with my little diesel car, I ordered a kit from the Greasecar folks, which set me back another 800 bucks. Then we organized a three day long workshop party in New Paltz, and put flyers all over town that said:

"COME TO A DIY VEGETABLE OIL CONVERSION PARTY IN THE AGE OF CORPORATE OIL WARS"

Dave drove in from Allentown to oversee the process, and for the next three days we made a big spectacle of ourselves in one of the parking lots behind Main Street, tools and car parts and coolant hoses and hose clamps everywhere. A bunch of folks showed up to check it out and help make things happen. People played music and cooked food. After three days and a bunch of inevitable screw ups, the car was running, the smell of fryer grease was in the air, and my friend and I were driving off into the sunset — which is, if you recall, how this whole story began.

IX. The Mind Blowing Machine

It's a month later, and when I drive by the gas stations now and look at the prices they're charging per gallon it feels like the old days when we scammed the phone lines to call our friends on the other side of the country. When we pull up and ask permission to hit the dumpsters behind the Chinese restaurants and our exhaust smells like grease, everyone around us is amazed. It's such a great way to start conversations with strangers. No one wants to pay \$2.4 a gallon for gas, and just seeing that other options exist out there creates an opening to think about larger change in the world that the mass media just does not have any interest in showing. It's called being a threat by example. As Ashley is fond of saying, it's

chips in our brains and genetically engineered oil monocrops sucking the land dry? Will our badass friends have localized permaculture fuel farms and biodiesel cooperatives in the free states and autonomous zones scattered around the dying nation? Time will tell. Meanwhile, there are new technologies out there on the horizon — hybrid cars are already on the road and hydrogen fuel cells are on the way. The greasecar is inevitably going to go the way of the chinger, an obsolete technology for an out of date system. And really, in the end, the whole individualist car culture that we live in is going to have to change dramatically if there's any hope for the planet. There's no denying that, like so many other things in our society including the Internet, the interstate system was originally fueled by and built for war — to transport arms and soldiers, and there's seemingly still the imprint of the origins imbedded into the design. Our culture is sick and demented and the last thing we need is more highways and roads. But I like to think of it the same as when a big old tree in the forest dies — younger trees come along and utilize the root system that the old tree spent years carving through the rock and the soil. Why make a whole new system if you can take advantage of a structure that's already in place? We're just doing the best we can with what we've been left to use.

IX. Conclusion

Ashley and I are pulling out of the parking lot of the High Falls Food Co-op one day when we catch wind of the familiar used fryer grease smell and look up to see a small VW pickup truck, painted the color of a John Deere tractor, pulling in. There's a huge sticker on the back that states in bold letters: "This Car Runs on Used Vegetable Oil." The guy driving the truck is Eddy, who proudly tells us with a shy smile that he's driven 25,000 miles in his greasecar.

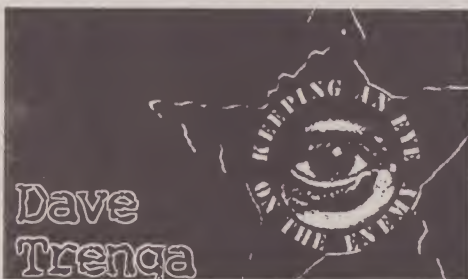
We make a date to go out and collect grease; supposedly he's perfected the grease dumpster hand pumping system and I'm anxious to check out his seasoned technique. This is our own little subculture we're creating — somewhere between Back to the Future and The Road Warrior, set on the backdrop of the Hudson Valley in the early 21st Century with corporate oil wars raging across the world. Even though the greedy bastards have made their permanent marks in the land and in our heads, the future is surely not going to look the way they've planned it. The future is as of yet unwritten, and if we're crafty enough we'll find a way to build our new world with the broken pieces of all their monuments to power and oil. I don't know how the future's going to look, but there's only so much you can control the flow of chaos. And there's definitely some chaos up ahead. Meanwhile, we're out here dumpstering our fuel, growing our food, breaking the rules, and making as many friends as we can along the way.

—Sascha

Scatter

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for more on the grease tip check out:

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Do we really have an opportunity to change this country come November or is this upcoming election merely a show for the masses? This is something that seems to be dominating a lot of my conversations with friends lately. The upcoming election is something that I've been debating with myself since the last fraudulent election installed Bush in power. I used to vote when I was younger but became tired, as many people have, with a lack of options in the two party system and with voting for a "lesser of two evils". I have always had much more faith in activism and community involvement because in these areas you can actually see that something is being accomplished. You're not merely casting a vote for someone to act as a surrogate, hoping that they will in turn follow through with the work that you hope will be done. It's disempowering for people who put so much stock in elected officials to never see results, never see change, to see themselves and their concerns overlooked time and time again. To see their interests take a backseat to the corporate and vested interests that influence policy. It's this kind of disappointment that disillusiones and disenfranchises people from continuing to vote. But unfortunately, most people don't bother to seek out other ways to try and create change. The whole concept of voting seems to be disempowering in the sense that we're to choose someone else to take on the responsibility that all of us should be shouldering. Getting involved ourselves with our communities is definitely a more empowering route to take. This affords us the assurance that something is actually being done instead of us listening, cynically, to someone else make empty promises with dressed up political rhetoric. The rhetoric, so carefully crafted to comfort us in our choice of our surrogate, is almost always void of any actual meaningful action.

Imagine ever making a dent is extremely discouraging. The illusion of democracy where the people's interests are being represented by these surrogates provides us the luxury of not having to take control of our own lives or take responsibility for all of the problems in our society. We have someone else to look to with expectations of change and also to blame for the absence of that change. We've placed ourselves in the comfortable positions of distancing ourselves from responsibility and disavowing ourselves from fault. Instead we have an abundant supply of others to blame for all of our failures as a society. For all of these reasons community involvement and activism is a much more effective and empowering route to take than voting. Regrettably, most people, for one reason or another are either unable or unwilling to take an active role in their own communities. Most people won't even take five minutes out of their lives to vote, even those who believe in voting, let alone get involved in their communities. So where does that leave us? It's a tired old cliché to hear people whine and complain how voting or even activism and community involvement never accomplish anything when they never try. I'm tired of people who think that they're above all of the problems in our world, that they share no responsibility in the blame because they don't have any of the powering the decision-making. This kind of attitude is very self-defeating. If you're unhappy with your life or what you see happening around you then it's up to each one of us to change it. We can't sit back and expect someone else to do it for us. None of us are free of that responsibility. We can't keep putting ourselves in the "victim" role, sitting on our asses and willingly accepting the scraps, those with the initiative to seize the reins, throw our way.

Now to look at this upcoming election issue a little closer, there has been so much emphasis being placed on this election. I definitely agree that this year's election is crucially important. In the last three and a half years we've seen degrees of extremism, oppression, corruption, and secrecy of unprecedented proportions rule this country and this world. We've seen arrogance and a sense of entitlement presiding over the world that leaves no room for dissent — an arrogance that has manipulated every means and every resource around them to provide themselves and their political allies with an endless stream of stolen wealth — an arrogance that has alienated the entire world and aggressively attacked, intimidated, silenced, suppressed, discredited and destroyed all that oppose them — an arrogance that has broken every international law and treaty that's stood in their way — an arrogance that is directly responsible for the deaths and maiming of tens of thousands of innocent people, and with more and more of their lies being exposed on a daily basis they arrogantly repeat the same old lies that have been exposed, trying to convince their intransigence and repetition that they're telling the truth. This arrogance and complete self-righteousness have been the ultimate "fuck you" to everyone else in the world, to everyone of us that they believe in their self-elevated-arrogance is beneath them. This administration is, without a doubt, beginning to panic that they may lose the upcoming election and have to relinquish power. In this panic they're going to and further exploit all means and resources at their disposal to protect that power. They fear a complete backlash at the polls this November, a backlash not only from the stolen 2000 election but also due to their policies of hate, fear and extremism. Their fear, however, will not diminish their determination to hold onto their power. We've already been seeing the same voter purging tactics occurring in Florida that helped Bush steal the 2000 election. We're seeing a desperate attempt to install electronic voting machines, black box voting, that leave no paper trails (manufactured and maintained by right-wing pro-Bush conservative companies) all over the country before the November election. We're seeing resistance towards the idea of having the U.N. oversee the election process, just like we saw the refusal to allow the U.N. to oversee the 2000 election fiasco. This is also why one of the main stipulations of the PATRIOT ACT 2 (which they've been waiting to pass) is to strip dissidents of citizenship and their right to vote. Their latest tactic has been the possible suspension of the November election due to the "terrorist threat". The suspension of the November election would be unprecedented in this country's history. In their ultimate display of arrogance they've suggested that right now they have every intention of allowing the November election to take place. Allowing? They act as if they're doing everyone a huge favor. Maybe it's my aversion to authority but when I see this administration so painstakingly trying to stop people like myself from voting in this election, I feel very compelled to actually do it. It's an appropriate response to their efforts and a hearty "fuck you" to these bastards. Another manipulative tactic that they're aggressively pursuing is their continuing insistence that the terrorists are determined to disrupt our democratic process. They keep insisting, without providing a shred of proof or detail, that the terrorists are determined to affect the outcome of the November election, "like they did in Spain", the implication here being that the terrorists are hoping for a Kerry-Edwards victory. Obviously because the Bush administration is doing such a great job in fighting the "war on terror", at least that's what they want us to believe. They want to create the illusion that if they're voted out of office then the terrorists will have won. This is where their arrogance and fear tactics are hoping to materialize, clinching another four years for them. I worry that not only will their politics of fear give them another four years but that after that we're in for another eight years of a Jeb Bush presidency. Another Bush administration is a very real danger as he could surely ride his brother's power and momentum into the Whitehouse. We can't afford another twelve years of Bush extremism ruling this world; we can't even afford another four — still definitely have lots of reservations about the election process but I also believe that we are faced with the urgent need of getting Bush out of office. There are definitely people that I would've rather seen get the democratic presidential nomination but unfortunately they didn't get that nomination. I don't see hene-

I can think of taking five minutes out of my life to cast a vote against Bush. I would strongly encourage everyone else to do the same. Considering what is at stake here I can certainly deal with the hypocrisy of supporting "the most liberal senator" in the senate, as the GOP has comically labeled Kerry. So I'm taking a step backwards in time and voting for a "lesser of two evils" again. It's still a step forward in the scope of things, considering that as a society we've taken a huge step backwards in every social gain made in decades, under the Bush administration. I definitely think it's time to reverse our backwards course. We can worry about how to deal with Kerry after Bush is out. I, for one, don't see Kerry waging the kind of war against all of us as Bush has. So this would be a positive step, a first step. Getting this administration out of office is certainly something that needs to be done and it's something that takes a minimal effort on our part. Seeing them all behind bars would be even better and more than warranted but I realize the remote possibility of that ever happening. After we get them out of office we can further pursue our own involvement in trying to create change directly. Or for those who don't want to be bothered, they will at least have someone else to point a finger at for the next four years. But everyone should keep in mind that we do have the ability to create change, how much of a change is completely up to us. To create a minimal change vote Bush out of office. If we want to take things a step further, then we can actively work beyond the election, empowering ourselves, getting more involved to change everything that know need changing, instead of leaving all of our responsibilities to someone else's devices.



I recently attended a meeting that was meant to be an open forum for the business community and environmental community to better understand one another. There was some clearing up of misconceptions, like just because someone owns a business doesn't mean she wants to cover all the parks in concrete. Other misconceptions and stereotypes were annoyingly reinforced.

I considered it highly likely that someone in the audience would pull out his or her soapbox and get overly sentimental. Sure enough, some lady started talking about global warming and how she is kept up at night thinking about hundreds of thousands of Bangladeshis who will be forced out of their homes by rising waters and wanted to know what we all were going to do about it. I watched everyone, including myself, roll their eyes and shut down. To win back the crowd, I poked fun at the lady and said I planned to convert the world to renewable energy sources right after I freed Tibet and brought world peace. Though really, it wasn't what she said, but the cliché was she said it.

This is not to say that developing countries won't be damaged by climate change — we all will feel it, but I'm tired of environmentalists taking this holier-than-thou, purer-than-thou attitude. Also, I think that when environmentalists start talking on global scales it makes people feel pretty helpless. It's the old belief and cop-out that a problem is so huge that individual actions make no difference. That may or may not be true, but it's an apathetic attitude to take. The fact is that even if my efficiency and conservation actions don't make too much of a global impact, there are tons of reasons to conserve energy and/or use renewable energy.

First of all, if you use less energy, you pay less on your utility bill. Doing things like turning off lights when you leave a room, using a drying rack rather than the clothes dryer, setting refrigerators, freezers, and water heaters to the right temperature (34-37° for fridge, 120° for water heater) are worthwhile things to do, but your biggest savings will likely come from using more efficient light bulbs and appliances. One of the easiest and cheapest things to do is switch out your incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs). They give off the same amount of light, but use 75% less energy and usually last for five to nine years. So if you rent, you'll want to take these bulbs with you when you move. They cost a few bucks more than conventional bulbs, but since they save you money on your bill and keep you from buying a light bulb for close to ten years, they pay for themselves in a month or so. There are the spiral bulbs, vanity globes, outdoor lights, etc. Check out www.energystar.gov for all the cool shit.

Secondly, saving energy prevents pollution and saves water. Most power plants burn coal to produce electricity, which sends lots of NOx, SO2, CO2, and particulate matter into the air, among other things. These compounds, with the exception of CO2, are responsible for air pollution and acid rain, which brings nasty stuff into your lungs, dirties your skin, acidifies lakes and forests, and smells and looks bad. CO2, or carbon dioxide, is a greenhouse gas and therefore, a huge contributor to climate change. Climate change means different things for different places. Some places will get more precipitation, others will get less. Some areas will get hotter, others like Scandinavia could not really really really

cars, especially old cars, can have a lot of soul. The engine of a car is like a heart — instead of blood flowing through its arteries, its pumps are filled with oil and anti-freeze and gas. Just like a human body all the internal systems are connected — when one piece goes it usually sets off all kinds of chain reactions. Cars need understanding and attention to keep functioning, just like us. And like people, the more we understand them and how they work, the more time we spend with them, the less alien they seem.

VII. Obsessed with Diesels

Last winter when there were two feet of snow on the ground outside our house in the woods, I met Dave Rosenstrauss on the greasecar.com message board. Greasecar is a company out of Western Massachusetts that, like Greasel in Missouri, sells DIY conversion kits for diesel vehicles. They have a message board on their website where folks can post questions and advertise cars. Dave was selling his beat up old Ford F-350 ambulance that he'd already set up to run on veggie oil. As it turned out he lived in a punk house in Allentown, Pennsylvania with a crew of other kids, played drums in a bunch of bands, and inevitably we had a bunch of mutual connections. Dave taught himself how to do grease conversions without any background in mechanics and that was really impressive to me. Even though I decided not to buy that enormous janky old money-trap ambulance, we stayed in touch.

Meanwhile I did as much research as I could over the winter and eventually decided that the most practical and economical car to invest in would be a Volkswagen Jetta, and then I promptly began manically searching for one. I was totally obsessed, traveling across the country this spring with my partner Ashley on Icarus Tour - and every chance I got I was online looking at page after page of used car websites. Ashley would laugh and say: "There you go looking at your Jetta Porn again..." But it paid off and I finally found one: a 1990 diesel Jetta for about as much as I could afford to pay in a place that wasn't so hard to get to. When I got back to the Hudson Valley with my little diesel car, I ordered a kit from the Greasecar folks, which set me back another 800 bucks. Then we organized a three day long workshop party in New Paltz, and put flyers all over town that said:

"COME TO A DIY VEGETABLE OIL CONVERSION PARTY IN THE AGE OF CORPORATE OIL WARS"

Dave drove in from Allentown to oversee the process, and for the next three days we made a big spectacle of ourselves in one of the parking lots behind Main Street, tools and car parts and coolant hoses and hose clamps everywhere. A bunch of folks showed up to check it out and help make things happen. People played music and cooked food. After three days and a bunch of inevitable screw ups, the car was running, the smell of fryer grease was in the air, and my friend and I were driving off into the sunset - which is, if you recall, how this whole story begins.

IX. The Mind Blowing Machine

It's a month later, and when I drive by the gas stations now and look at the prices they're charging per gallon it feels like the old days when we scammed the phone lines to call our friends on the other side of the country. When we pull up and ask permission to hit the dumpsters behind the Chinese restaurants and our exhaust smells like grease, everyone around us is amazed. It's such a great way to start conversations with strangers. No one wants to pay \$2 a gallon for gas, and just seeing that other options exist out there creates an opening to think about larger change in the world that the mass media just does not have any interest in showing. It's called being a threat by example. As Ashley is fond of saying, it's like we're driving around a Mind Blowing Machine.

So at the moment it seems we've found a loophole in the system we hate, but of course there's only so long they'll let us use it. Business interests will figure out some way of bringing us into the fold. In a couple years they'll probably start making us pay for used grease, they'll start taxing or ticketing us. Inevitably they'll start making their own biodiesel from the waste grease they won't let us have anymore and then sell it to us. Will it be a Josh Tickell teamed up with BP and Chevron to create the Sustainable Shining Path to the Future with the computer

though the greedy bastards have made their permanent home in the future, the future is surely not going to look the way they've planned it. The future is as of yet unwritten, and if we're crafty enough we'll find a way to build our new world with the broken pieces of all their monuments to power and oil. I don't know how the future's going to look, but there's only so much you can control the flow of chaos. And there's definitely some chaos up ahead. Meanwhile, we're out here dumpstering our fear, growing our food, breaking the rules, and making as many friends as we can along the way.

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understand the means and every resource around them to provide themselves and their political allies with an endless stream of stolen wealth—an arrogance that has alienated the entire world and aggressively attacked, intimidated, silenced, suppressed, discredited and destroyed all that oppose them—an arrogance that has broken every international law and treaty that's stood in their way—an arrogance that is directly responsible for the deaths and maiming of tens of thousands of innocent people, and with more and more of their lies being exposed on a daily basis they arrogantly repeat the same old lies that have been exposed, trying to convince through insistence and repetition that they're telling the truth. This arrogance and complete self-righteousness have been the ultimate "fuck you" to everyone else in the world, to everyone of us that they believe in their self-elevated arrogance is beneath them. 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Thirdly, using less energy or choosing renewable energy, like wind and solar, means less money and power for the utility companies. Energy companies are some of the nastiest corporations around, responsible for so much environmental damage, environmental injustice, and for passing these costs directly onto the consumers—us. Also, energy companies have the Bush administration in their back pocket. They are pushing (and succeeding) for a

2004 Presidential Election YUCK vs YUCK vs YUCK

Not one candidate will be a Revolutionary. Your vote will be for Capitalism. Think about it. Four more years of jobless recovery, Iraq, budget cuts, taxes, racism, religion, laws, labor unions, global warming, corruption, etc., etc.?

A better America is possible.
Yes it is. Write us:
DDEC, PO Box 3744, Grand Rapids MI 49501

YUCK vs YUCK vs YUCK

REASON #117

What's the difference between Bush and Kerry?

Bush: He wants to outlaw abortion and has so far taken 11 executive actions to undermine reproductive rights.

Kerry: Has a long history of defending a woman's right to choose and wants to keep abortion safe and legal.

The next President will have the power to appoint two seats to a Supreme Court that

CORPORATE OIL WARS*

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Secondly, saving energy prevents pollution and saves water. Most power plants burn coal to produce electricity, which sends lots of NOx, SO2, CO2, and particulate matter into the air, among other things. These compounds, with the exception of CO2, are responsible for air pollution and acid rain, which brings nasty stuff into your lungs, dirties your skin, acidifies lakes and forests, and smells and looks bad. CO2, or carbon dioxide, is a greenhouse gas and therefore, a huge contributor to climate change. Climate change means different things for different places. Some places will get more precipitation, others will get less. Some areas will get hotter, others like Scandinavia, could get really, really, really cold. So, even if you don't care much about the environment, if you care about more killer music coming out of Sweden and Finland, start saving energy!

Thirdly, using less energy or choosing renewable energy, like wind and solar, means less money and power for the utility companies. Energy companies are some of the nastiest corporations around, responsible for so much environmental damage, environmental injustice, and for passing these costs directly onto the consumers—us. Also, energy companies have the Bush administration in their back pocket. They are pushing (and succeeding) for a

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PUCK VOTER

REASON #117

What's the difference between Bush and Kerry?

Bush: He wants to outlaw abortion and has so far taken 11 executive actions to undermine reproductive rights.

Kerry: Has a long history of defending a woman's right to choose and wants to keep abortion safe and legal.

The next President will have the power to appoint two seats to a Supreme Court that is already only one vote away from overturning *Roe v. Wade*, which would effectively outlaw abortion on a national level.

Bush has made it clear that he will appoint anti-abortion judges in his next term. Kerry has made it clear that he will appoint pro-choice judges. You decide who is going to protect your personal liberties.

Make a choice while you still have a choice.

JOIN US!

Send for our Puck Voter

2004 Presidential Election YUCK vs YUCK vs YUCK

Not one candidate will be a Revolutionary. Your vote will be for Capitalism. Think about it: Four more years of jobless recovery, Iraq, budget cuts, taxes, racism, religion, laws, labor unions, global warming, corruption, etc., etc.?

A better America is possible. Yes it is. Write us:
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SLUG & LETTUCE PAGE 5

COLUMNS

weaker Clean Air Act, outrageous federal subsidies, and immunity from environmental lawsuits. Using less energy is essentially a boycott; you buy less of their services and give them less money to fuel their ecocidal campaigns. The fossil fuel economy is based on bloodshed, greed, and war. Go see Michael Moore's most recent flick if you need a refresher course.

To me, so much of environmentalism is about taking back my life from corporations that certainly do not have my best interests at heart. It's about living in healthy homes, drinking clean water, and having acres upon acres to get lost in. It's about loving animals, loving trees, loving autonomy. But it is also about making practical decisions and not forgetting about the impacts of all of our actions.

carolynchaos@hotmail.com



It's a blustery Saturday and I can't get Poison Idea out of my head, even as I bushwhack my way down a dying logging road. Last night, after a fifteen year wait, I finally got to see of Jerry A and Pig Champion play their greatest hits amidst clouds of flying Pabst cans.

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But it had. This place had not only survived the machinations of American Industry, but actually shot forth new forests, not once, but twice. Regeneration and resurrection on this scale leave me completely and totally speechless with the same sort of quasi-religious moments I had when I saw my first native salmon run. But it got me thinking. If the Forest can pop back from being clearcut twice in one century and run over by ox hooves and steel tread, why are we having such a tough time implementing the same sense of healing and renewal in the punk scene where the scale of damage is so much smaller? How come decade after decade we're still confronted with the same sicknesses (rape, abuse, murder, etc) and the same ineffective responses to 'em? What else can we do or say to initiate the process of healing and renewal in order that our movements might not only be able to get through cases of sexual assault and violence without falling apart, but provide a space where we can heal the wounds that other humans and corporate death culture have inflicted on us?

I'm a bit obsessed with this all right now 'cuz over and over, like some Hegelian nightmare, I'm antagonized by the actions of rapists and abusers and murderers who, even though their names and faces change, still destroy the scenes and movements me and my friends have spent our entire lives building.

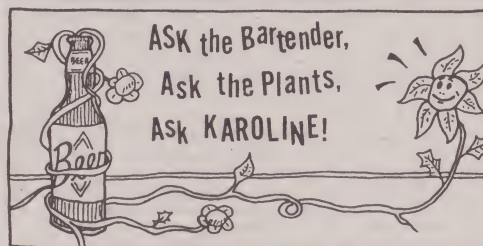
Sure, we can do what me and a million other punks have done in the past. We can talk shit about someone, ban them from our houses and our shows, and maybe, just maybe, if the mood is right, go out with steelcaps and bats and break some perp's teeth in. But aside from making someone's life uncomfortable or their smile a lot less shiny, has any of this shit ever changed anything? Are these ways of dealing any different than the bullshit vengeance we learned from Sunday School, A Team episodes or fucking George W Bush?

I reckon any time our cultures of resistance are mimicking the tendencies and thought patterns of the Christian Right and US Government, something has gone wrong. And I think after so many years of well documented failures in dealing with tough issues in our scene, it's time to get out the pick-axes and hammers, not only to destroy what's sick and crumbling, but also to build new ways of dealing with shit when it happens.

A couple weeks ago at the zine symposium I went to a consent workshop done by Moe Bowerstein where she pointed out something in a John Stoltenberg essay that after a few days' contemplation, turned out to be a revelation in my life. During the course of Moe's great presentation, she happened to hit a small tangent where she said something to the point of "The thing I like most about the way Stoltenberg writes is that he doesn't say 'What to do IF you fuck up' but 'What to do WHEN you fuck up.'"

It was like a bonfire illuminating a rock quarry in my mind. All too often, just as in mainstream death culture, we rely on righteous indignation, judgement and enforced penitence to get us through tough spots and tough issues. But these responses, as just and natural as they may be, are also dishonest. No one is infallible or without sin. Show me a perfect person. Show me a person who has never wronged anyone. Never made an error in judgement, respect or good taste. Never hurt someone either mentally, physically or emotionally. If you can think of anyone who's never fucked up, let me know 'cuz I want 'em to lead the new insurgency (and be my new best friend). But otherwise, we're left with the uncomfortable fact that we're all imperfect humans living in an imperfect world. So from this rootwad of honesty where we all recognize the fallibility inherent in all humans, what can we do to get through instances when someone's imperfection hurts another person in a very deep and personal way? How can we forge a system where fuck ups can be healed, reconciled and eventually, if at all possible, forgiven? What can we do to ensure the harmful actions aren't repeated? What can we do to gather the strength to heal and grow and thrive, even when our very guts cry out for blood and vengeance?

I really don't know. I just figure, like any good 12 stepper, that the first way to



It feels as though summer might finally be here to stay in the city of suds (Milwaukee, that is). We've been plagued with weather akin to the Pacific Northwest (cool/cold and rainy) ever since winter ended...but with the Midwest bonus of huge bloodthirsty mosquitoes that will eat you alive as soon as the sun goes down. Today is HOT and sunny and I'm proud to say that our little communal house garden seems to be flourishing out in the back yard. We've made plenty of mistakes (this being our first garden endeavor) like digging out too small of a bed for all the things we wanted to plant, then planting everything later than we probably should have, (which turned out to be a good thing this year because all of the early starters Patsy and I spoke to said much of their crops rotted due to all the rain) and not being really on top of the proper companion plants to battle the potential pests. All that being said, we've got squash, broccoli, zucchini, watermelon, peppers and tomatoes on the way and we've already been eating homegrown spinach on our breakfast sandwiches (see 'recipe' below). It sounds silly, but I'm darn proud of us. The potted herbs (lavender, sage, rosemary, nettles, parsley, oregano) on the front porch are thriving as well and they get used regularly for cooking. Unfortunately, the raccoons ate our little fledgling strawberries. Oh well. On a different note, if you're looking for an interesting road trip, check out Northern Wisconsin (up by da U.P., oh yah) and you'll be in for a stunning array of forests and lakes and if you can find Hurley, WI you'll see the world's largest corkscrew. I only mention this because Robert and I drove up there to see my dad a couple of weeks ago. Good stuff.

breakfast sammies and rosemary in not much time...

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- toasted english muffin (matthew's all natural or jeanne's are our brands of choice) smeared with margarine, nutritional yeast, cayenne and sriracha hot sauce (affectionately called 'rooster' in our house).

- some sort of fake bacon type product, fried up with vegan cheese (usually vegan relia) on top.

- spinach (we like it raw, but you could sweat it for a minute or two with the bacon if you prefer).

- slices of raw onion.

- fresh basil leaves (just a few).

Pile all of this together and devour. Quick, easy and delicious.

Another quick and easy tidbit for you is this:

Rosemary Oil (from Herbal Rituals by Judith Berger, August chapter)

- cold pressed organic olive oil

- fresh or dried rosemary leaves

- glass jar with lid (a mason jar works fine)

You can either use fresh Rosemary leaves or dried. The leatherness of the leaves protects the volatile oils of the plant until they are released into a liquid matrix. If using dried leaves, only fill your jar 1/3 of the way as the leaves will draw the olive oil into themselves as they impart their own volatile oils to the matrix. The last time I made this oil, I let it 'steep' in the pantry for about 5 weeks. Really pungent and delicious for cooking. If you substitute jojoba oil for olive, you can use this oil for problematic scalp issues (itching/dandruff). one quick shot...

Summer is kinda crazy in the bar business and I haven't really had a chance to be creative with the booze this time around, but I did come up with this little gem the other night.

-Stoli Raspberry Vodka, Chocolate Liqueur, Silk French Vanilla Soy Creamer. Take equal parts of the liquors (maybe a teensy tiny bit more raspberry than chocolate) so that a 10 oz. rocks glass full of ice is about 1/2 liquor and 1/2 soy creamer. This baby is a little sip of heaven, just like an incredible candy or a scrumptious adult milk shake. Be warned, though, too many of these and you'll be praying to the porcelain gods for sure. gotta love that Sam Mcpheeters...

I meant to mention my love for Mr. Mcpheeters last time around, as I've always

exciting tour news...

The Subhumans are coming back again this fall (end of October!) for a 3 week tour of the midwest/east coast and it looks like I'm finally gonna get to go on tour again! Woo-hoo! Two years without a tour is just too darn long. Hu and Cry (Arwen, Clara & Chloe from San Francisco) will have already finished their 10 day Milwaukee to New York tour by the time this issue comes out, but I'm sure those ladies will have rocked your world just as they did mine. I guess I'll end with a period...

I haven't done any research into this subject, other than talking to a woman that I work with who is taking this, but is anyone else freaked out by the new birth control pill that only gives you 4 periods a year? I don't love having my period, but I am totally intrigued by the cycles and 'flow' (on many levels, including the blood) of a woman's body system. It seems to me that suppressing something that we are genetically programmed to do is dangerous and falls into that whole 'give me convenience or give me death' mentality. I know that millions of women have incredibly painful periods and this is probably a good quick fix on some levels, but how long have they (drug companies) been testing this? What are the long term effects? Judging from the television ad campaign I've seen, the current 20-something generation of women are the guinea pig/target market. Society is so wrapped up in extreme measures these days...doesn't anyone remember that good old word called moderation anymore? I want everyone to read the book 'Cum' a declaration of independence by Inga Muscio (Seal Press). Okay, enough of my babble. Take care of yourselves, think about the possible long term effects of what you put into your body (food, alcohol, beverages, pills, whatever) and take some time to check out all the incredible plant life growing around you. Take nothing for granted. Life is short. karoline

2491 S. Superior St. Milwaukee, WI 53207/theroadiegirl@hotmail.com



Here in Philly, there is nothing better than Penn X-mas, and it always brings it's joys in late spring. See, out here in West Philly, (the true Punk neighborhood in Philadelphia, way more so than that South Philly place) there is the University of Pennsylvania, an ivy-league school, where the majority of the student body is from the ruling elite. Now, no one is more wasteful than a bunch of rich kids - so every spring when school lets out, tons of stuff goes from the dorm rooms and apartments to the dumpster, and it is a feeding frenzy for all the punks and squatters. We go out each night, collecting a year's supply of notebooks, cleaning products, and foodstuffs; but the real treasures are those strange things that you would never buy, but which remind you of what the mainstream world really cares about. Large amounts of magazines are a prime example, and this is how a copy of the *Alternative Press* ended up in my bathroom.

For those who don't know the *Alternative Press*, it is a zine that was once a halfway decent music zine, and is presently a forum for "new, up-and-coming" bands' press kits. It's really bad. Glossy, posed photos and shitty write-ups fill the pages. So I was reading this on the toilet and I was amazed, and kinda disgusted, at how often Punk was brought up. "Scene credibility" I guess is the phrase for this type of maneuver in the music biz... tie your new bands in to the hip underground - so every two-bit rock band claims a punk past or punk influences. Maybe I wouldn't be so bothered by this if they weren't ripping off my culture, a culture that we have gone out of our way to not allow to be corrupted, or annexed by the mainstream. As I am reading this, these excerpts of interviews with men in their early twenties, I keep thinking about how every time they talk about their "punk influences" they missed the most important one of all - the basic DIY mentality, which is the main reason I am still here. In punk, music should be created out of pure passion - not as a career - and promotion should be conducted by friends, allies, peers - and not by record executives, for who music is a commodity. This is the network that we have built, and it is good that bands are called on their ethics.

For the most part I don't write much about the "selling out" of music in Punk culture - I feel enough people do this and it is on the radar of thought for most people who read *Slug & Lettuce*, but enough references in shitty, glossy music magazines just got me going. I had to tell myself that to them the word punk is just a descriptive word for a type of music - one that has been co-opted by the mainstream. It dilutes the culture, makes it feel like it is just one aspect of the rock/roll industry instead of a separate scene with different ethics, ideology,

ECOPUNK

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However, unlike during the Johnson administration, this time around the gypso logging outfit didn't cut every single woody plant in sight. In fact, minus some reopened skidroads and some banged up trunks, they did so good a job, I could hardly tell the place had been logged at all.

Because this contract involved climbing trees and knocking their tops off (the same kinda work that killed my dear friend Craig Benneville last year), I spent more time sitting in the woods staring off at the regeneration taking place around me than climbing trees. With my history of Earth First melodrama and morbidity behind me, it was difficult for my mind to fathom that 40 years ago, this awesome

lot less shiny, has any of this shit ever changed into? Are these ways of dealing any different than the bullshit vengeance we learned from Sunday School, A Team episodes or fucking George W Bush?

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I really don't know. I just figure, like any good 12 stepper, that the first way to start making progress in a life changing process is to strip down all my illusions and prejudices and get to work from a position of raw honesty. From there, without all our Christian bloodlusts, magistrate judgements and military reflexes, maybe we can follow the forest's lead and grow from muddy ruin to a strong, thriving stand -mike

ps- I'm really interested in getting feedback from folks on possible ways to initiate any kind of real solution to the problems of violence within our scenes. If you've got any thoughts or ideas, please email me (chinookiefirst@yahoo.com) or give a call at (541) 554-0922...



rain) and not being really on top of the proper companion plants to battle the incredible pests. All that being said, we've got squash, broccoli, zucchini, watermelon, peppers and tomatoes on the way and we've already been eating homegrown spinach on our breakfast sandwiches (see 'recipe' below). It sounds silly, but I'm damn proud of us. The potted herbs (lavender, sage, rosemary, nettles, parsley, oregano) on the front porch are thriving as well and they get used regularly for cooking. Unfortunately, the raccoons ate our little fledgling strawberries. On a different note, if you're looking for an interesting road trip, check out Northern Wisconsin (up by da U.P., oh yah) and you'll be in for a stunning array of forests and lakes and if you can find Hurley, WI you'll see the world's largest corkscrew. I only mention this because Robert and I drove up there to see my dad a couple of weeks ago. Good stuff.

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beverages, pills, whatever) and take some time to check out all the incredible plant life growing around you. Take nothing for granted. Life is short. karoline

2491 S. Superior St. Milwaukee, WI 53207/theroadiegirl@hotmail.com



Here in Philly, there is nothing better than Penn X-mas, and it always brings it's joys in late spring. See, out here in West Philly, (the true Punk neighborhood in Philadelphia, way more so than that South Philly place) there is the University of Pennsylvania, an ivy-league school, where the majority of the student body is from the ruling elite. Now, no one is more wasteful than a bunch of rich kids - so every spring when school lets out, tons of stuff goes from the dorm rooms and apartments to the dumpster, and it is a feeding frenzy for all the punks and squatters. We go out each night, collecting a year's supply of notebooks, cleaning products, and foodstuffs; but the real treasures are those strange things that you would never buy, but which remind you of what the mainstream world really cares about. Large amounts of magazines are a prime example, and this is how a copy of the *Alternative Press* ended up in my bathroom.

For those who don't know the *Alternative Press*, it is a zine that was once a halfway decent music zine, and is presently a forum for "new, up-and-coming" bands' press kits. It's really bad. Glossy, posed photos and shitty write-ups fill the pages. So I was reading this on the toilet and I was amazed, and kinda disgusted, at how often Punk was brought up. "Scene credibility" I guess is the phrase for this type of maneuver in the music biz... tie your new bands to the hip underground - so every two-bit rock band claims a punk past or punk influences. Maybe I wouldn't be so bothered by this if they weren't ripping off my culture, a culture that we have gone out of our way not to be corrupted, or annexed by the mainstream. As I read this, these excerpts of interviews with men in their early twenties, I keep thinking about how every time they talk about their "punk influences" they missed the most important one of all - the basic DIY meffallity, which is the main reason I am still here. In punk, music should be created out of pure passion - not as a career - and promotion should be conducted by friends, allies, peers - and not by record executives, for who music is a commodity. This is the network that we have built, and it is good that bands are called on their ethics.

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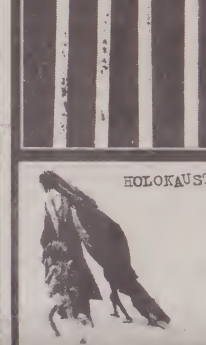
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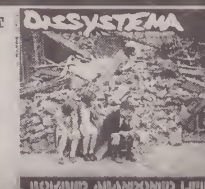
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SLEEPER CELL 7?
 powerful fast hardcore
 on tour this summer!
 ex balance of terror /
 self defense



a road into this cozy nook in the Crackamas River drainage. Bury in the second generation rednecks felled and bucked the trees with double bit axes and whipsaws before beasts of burden dragged the seven and eight foot thick logs away to build up the skid road, where filled town of Portland.

In 1964, Shober Logging reentered the area with newly redesigned Caterpillar D 9 dozers. These 80,000 LB machines followed the contours of the ancient roads and with firs and maples crunching 'neath their steel undercarriages, penetrated down into the logger's wetdream of flat, low elevation forest. Men in tin pants and steel helmets, using the revolutionary Poulan and McCulloch chainsaws (weighing in at 80-100lbs a piece), clearcut all 397 acres. The bulldozers, equipped with new, high torque Gearmatic winches, skidded the 3-6' diameter logs to landings where big Mack trucks hauled them off to the mill in Estacada. The land was replanted in 1966 by tree planters gleaned from the homeless population of Portland and newly arrived immigrants from Mexico. A big blue gate with not one but three padlocks on it sealed the gravel road leading up to the area. The forest was left to its own devices 'til 2002, when the old road was once again cleared of it's Maple and Alder by Caterpillar bulldozers (this time the D5H with Escro swing grapple and Cat turbodiesel power) and Shober Logging commercially thinned 190 acres.

However, unlike during the Johnson administration, this time around the gyppo logging outfit didn't cut every single woody plant in sight. In fact, minus some reopened skidroads and some banged up trunks, they did so good a job. I could hardly tell the place had been logged at all.

Because this contract involved climbing trees and knocking their tops off (the same kinda work that killed my dear friend Craig Benneville last year), I spent more time sitting in the woods staring off at the regeneration taking place around me than climbing trees. With my history of Earth First! melodrama and morbidity behind me, it was difficult for my mind to fathom that 40 years ago, this awesome

6/6/04 Austin RTX

enation, judgement and en-
wronged anyone. Never made an err in judgement, respect or good taste. Never hurt someone either mentally, physically or emotionally. If you can think of anyone who's never fucked up, let me know 'cuz I want 'em to lead the new insurgency (and be my new best friend). But otherwise, we're left with the uncomfortable fact that we're all perfect humyngs living in an imperfect world. So from this rootwad of honesty where we all recognize the fallibility inherent in all humyngs, what can we do to get through instances when someone's imperfection hurts another person in a very deep and personal way? How can we forge a system where fuck ups can be healed, reconciled and eventually, if at all possible, forgiven? What can we do to ensure the harmful actions aren't repeated? What can we do to gather the strength to heal and grow and thrive, even when our very guts cry out for blood and vengeance?

I really don't know. I just figure, like any good 12 stepper, that the first way to start making progress in a life changing process is to strip down all my illusions and prejudices and get to work from a position of raw honesty. From there, without all our Christian bloodlusts, magistrate judgements and military reflexes, maybe we can follow the forest's lead and grow from muddy ruin to a strong, thriving stand -mike

ps- I'm really interested in getting feedback from folks on possible ways to initiate any kind of real solution to the problems of violence within our scenes. If you've got any thoughts or ideas, please email me (chinnokidfirst@yahoo.com) or give a call at (541) 554-0922

leatherneck of the leaves protects the volatile oils of the plant until they are released into a liquid matrix. If using dried leaves, only fill your jar 1/3 of the way as the leaves will draw the olive oil into themselves as they impart their own volatile oils to the matrix. The last time I made this oil, I let it 'steep' in the pantry for about 5 weeks. Really pungent and delicious for cooking. If you substitute jojoba oil for olive, you can use this oil for problematic scalp issues (itching/dandruff) one quick shot...

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Groinchurn "Already Dead" Mcd \$5.00 ppd US / \$6.00 World 9 tracks of tightly produced catchy Death/Grind with a pinch of crustiness.

Facedowninshit "Shit Bloody Shit" Cd Early discography, think stoner rock, grind / crust, hardcore / punk, doom / sludge = FDIS.

Cluster Bomb Unit / Raagg Split 7" \$4.00 ppd US / \$6.00 World CBU: Crusty Doom ridden hardcore. Raagg: Brutal Jap. Hardcore.

Wolfpack "Allday Hell" Cd / Lp 100% raging Swedish HC that fucking hammers from start to finish.

Misery "Early Years" Cd Discography of their early material. Brutal legendary crust that is essential in everyone's collection if you like crust.

Remains of the Day "An Underlying Frequency" Cd / Lp R.O.T.D. play a mix of violent crust, grind and hardcore with alot of awesome melodic guitar work in there too. Totally essential in every aspect. Contains their 7" plus extra tracks.

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I ran into an old friend from Pittsburgh, and we had a discussion about his experiences being a librarian - this is something that is quite interesting to me. Sadly (or not sadly), I was more interested in his ideas about being a librarian than the music he played. I understand the importance of appreciating someone's art, but really... loud, fast, short (except rare bands in certain situations) just doesn't interest me. During a show what inspires me is the feeling, or overall atmosphere, created by both audience and performers... and after seeing shows in Montreal and Berlin it's hard to embrace the sterility of some Philly shows. I don't really relate to a certain "support the scene" argument, 'cause I can't imagine how seeing another third rate Disclone band will really change in world. Don't get me wrong, I still like a lot of punk music, I just don't think or even want to talk about it much.

I remember years ago, KILL THE MAN THAT QUESTIONS played in Baltimore and while there was good attendance at the show, only a few people were watching the band. Mike, the singer, made some negative comment about "people only going to the show to hang out with their friends," and it got me thinking, "Why do I go to shows?" It certainly isn't only to watch bands. It's for something more. I remember there used to be an fanzine in Washington, DC (where I lived during my teenage punk years) called the DC Period, and they ran an editorial that this woman wrote about why she goes to shows. She compared herself going to shows to other people attending church - to meet others of like minds in their own sense of community. At the time I used to go to Positive Force benefits for that same reason - it wasn't just to see great bands like Swiz, Government Issue or Fugazi, but for the needed interaction of my young punk friends and meeting older mentors of the "scene." It wasn't just Chris Bald's (Ex Faith Ignition) guitar playing or lyrics that inspired me, but the great person he was when I was 16 years old. I felt like when you're trying to live an oppositional lifestyle, you need a network that provides social support. So much of the reason I go to gatherings (shows, fests, conferences etc.) is this need for community and discussion, and because I like to see others strive for DIY ethics, of taking back our lives from the pitfalls of the dominant capitalist society. It is about something beyond just a music style, it is about a whole lifestyle.

That's why I'm excited about the Philly Skill Share that is happening in conjunction with the Pointless Fest. Robyn (former organizer of the Solidarity Fest in State College PA), Wiley and I have been conducting most of the organizing for the event, and the idea came to be during last year's Pointless Fest. Robyn and I were discussing how while we do like the punk shows, it would be nice to have some sort of activity during the day. With such a critical mass of people in town, most with a wealth of knowledge, why not set up a forum to use and spread all this DIY momentum? Well, that's our idea, and on Aug. 13&14 - a skill share/information exchange featuring workshops like biodesign, solar energy, welding, collective businesses and more. If you are in Philly at the time, definitely stop in; it will be at the CODE space at 48th and Woodland. If you want more information email us at phillyskillshare@sate-mail.net or look at the website www.phillyskillshare.com.

I know I wrote a column very similar to this last issue, but I feel that I haven't quite expressed the beauty of punk and punk ethics in everyday life enough. Yesterday at my house, I saw the healthy interaction of my community. PigPen is the staffing coordinator for the Woonen Shoe this month, and since his squat has no phone he used ours, while at the same time Robyn began setting up our zine library with all of our collective periodicals. The IMC building isn't open yet, so our house has become the Internet Cafe for all the Northwest Philly Anarchists - Sissy spent the day hot-wiring miscellaneous computer parts so we can have a second internet connection. Mark and I started worked on my van, so I could get it running because I needed to go to the Trader Joe's dumpster in order to get food for Eleanor's welcome home Potluck the next day. Community thrives when each member does their part for the collective good - and I see this often in these parts. This is the idea behind the skill share - to increase our own DIY skills - to remove ourselves from the exploitative society in which human interaction is based on personal gain. While I hate the commodification of Punk, I also hate the commodification of everyday life - and it is not a way I want to live. I want to believe in mutual aid, and unselfish acts - and I see enough around me to think it's more than a fantasy. We have built our little oppositional counter-culture and we should maintain it, since to me, punk is far more than some short, fast, loud guitar riffs.

ENDNOTES:

- Oh, before you write me off as an olde krusty who hates all music - I must say during the time of the Pointlessness I will be up front when Inepsy plays, cause they... well, they just rock that much. So if your band rocks as much as Inepsy, tell me and I will make sure to see you. But, I must warn you that if you all don't rock as much as you say, I will quickly become bored, which will result in me starting to heckle. So don't be claiming to be what you are not, 'cause I got a big mouth and I'm not afraid to use it. And these days I can heckle in multiple languages.

- I've written before about the need to vote in the USA, that while it is definitely not the be-all, end-all in working for social change, it is a method. Right now is definitely the time to register to vote for next fall's election because this country (and this planet) can't take another 4 years of Bush.

I have been thinking about the importance of various labels - the need for clarity

next year. One memory that will be etched in my mind is standing in the middle of Buckingham place at 7:30 am, holding an empty bottle of Chimey, watching Sissy stumbling around, and the BAD DUDES' mobile drive back to ROBOT HAUS. In the moment of clarity that only the morning light can bring, I turned to Erin and said - "You know, overall, I can really say that I like this life." She looked back at me and agreed. It was a good birthday, and a good day to be alive.

- OK, OK I am done this issue's column and hopefully Sissy (who is no longer stumbling at the moment) has cleaned up my random thoughts into a readable column, because I have to cook for a potluck and Wilder and I are leaving tomorrow to escape Philly's summer heat in the northlands of Canada. You know, I really should start not waiting until the last minute to write these things, so you, the reader would have a finer, higher quality piece of reading material. Awww, lots of things should happen in theory, and I did say once that zines should be written in a frantic, stream-of-conscious manner - that way they would be more like conversations, instead of over-edited articles. Or maybe that's a poor excuse for the lack of quality in punk...haha...awww, but I am the type of person who craves zines banged out on ancient typewriters filled with typos instead of some glossy shit any day. Yea that is my story...so "Drink and be merry, my friends, for tomorrow we may..." (note from the proofreader: If you had seen what I have seen in the lines of Mike's unedited writing, you too would be shuddering when you read this endnote. We, the collected lot of anti-distortion knobs on the guitar of Mike's ideas, salute you, Mr Straight, for giving us a *raison d'être*. And smokes.)

—Mike Straight - straight@defensetrator.org

Random Haus - 4332 Parrish st, Philadelphia Pa 19104

- Oh yeah, my trip over the Atlantic got postponed until September, but then I'll be back in Deutschland to "make big party" and get into long discussions with my old (and new) German friends about EU politics, gentrification, Marxist theory & the formations of nationalism - and other topics I think about on a regular basis - hopefully over beers at one of the KOPI bars.



Some activists have started to embrace neoprimitivism by striving to become more independent and consume less from big businesses and industries. In an effort to be more in touch with nature and our ancestry, some folks are moving back to the woods and living more autonomously. Over the last few years I have been meeting more and more road kill eaters, mostly at conferences and festivals. Some of them are even "road kill vegans." Is this a contradiction of terms or a sound, ecological way of life? Looking at this from a consumerism point of view, sure, everyone should be a road kill eater. The less we purchase, the better off the planet. And it's not like these animals are being hunted, they are already dead - relics of the car obsessed world we live in. So, why do I have this hesitation to promote road kill consumption? For one, it is not healthy. Granted wild animal flesh is hormone and antibiotic free (most likely) and most parasites can be killed as long as high temperatures are used in cooking, but it is still flesh. I know not all vegetarians and vegans made their diet choice because they don't like the taste of flesh but, animal flesh that has been sitting around on the side of the road for a while is a pretty challenging concept. Folks that live

all, aren't animal skins and furs prized in our society as status symbols and luxuries of the wealthy? The reason is because they are signs of oppression and badges of domination. Wearing or using a part of an animal is a sign of human domination over other non-human animals in society today, especially when it

is not out of necessity. It is making a statement that animals are objects to use as we desire, that wearing them is acceptable. In a society that already objectifies nearly everything in our site, why perpetuate this patriarchal view any further?

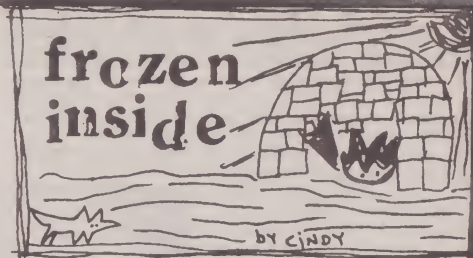
In addition, some neoprimitivists are hunting and fishing for their meals. One argument I have always discussed with meat eaters is whether they would continue to do so if they had to kill, skin and thoroughly prepare the animal before they consumed and used it. Most people say they probably would not be able to. But our ancestors used to without a second thought. We have most definitely distanced ourselves from our past where modernization and capitalism have changed our daily way of

life. We no longer depend on our own labor for survival, we pay others to do this for us. And I agree that this separation of consumer and product, or "alienation" as Marx expressed, has distorted our concept of life and earth. Need and desire are not as easily separated in a country that has an overabundance of everything and where most people embrace the products of globalization and industrialization - unaware or uninterested in the process (and destruction). However, most ethical vegans would agree that they choose their diet and lifestyle in order to not support the destructive, unnatural, inhumane practices of factory farming and agribusiness. It is possible to boycott these industries and not hunt or fish to survive and be healthy.

Other than fishing with my dad when I was little, I have never killed or handled an animal to prepare it for consumption and I prefer not to. I would rather grow my own veggies and dig up a potato instead. That is my preference and I am not necessarily judging those that do otherwise. I do not believe that independent hunting and fishing is a practical option any longer. Wild animals are being killed, poisoned, starved and their habitat is being taken away at alarming rates. Rivers and bays are overfished and overharvested making us all wonder what creatures will be around in another fifty years. It is just not ecological to go back to our hunting and fishing days of the past, as unfair as that may seem. My point is not to support industrialization and modernization, as this is what has been ruining our world. If we are interested in revolutionary change, let us look toward the future not try to recapture the past. Taking our lives back is important and something we all may strive for. So, lets start growing our own food and respecting the earth and animals around us, who knows how much longer they will be there for us to appreciate and admire. xoxo- krissi p.o. box 4288 richmond va 23220 or krissi@vegan.org

Vegan Scalloped Potatoes: 5 thinly sliced medium potatoes 1 finely chopped medium onion Salt and pepper to taste 1 cup nutritional yeast flakes 1 cup flour 1 cup water 1/8 cup margarine 1 tbsp garlic powder 1 tsp yellow mustard Pinch of turmeric Salt and pepper to taste. Grease a glass or ceramic pie dish and place a layer of potatoes with sprinkled onion and spices on top, continue this for several layers ending with a layer of potatoes. In a sauce pan, add all of the dry ingredients and whisk in the water cooking until it is thick and bubbling. Remove from heat and whip in the margarine and mustard. Pour this over the potatoes and bake at 400 degrees for about 50 minutes.

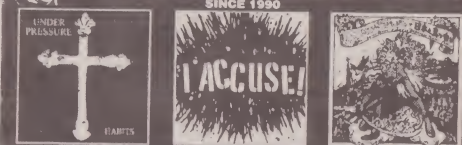
Peanut Butter Balls - No Bake: 1 cup peanut butter 1 cup softened soy margarine 1 lb minus a cup confectioners sugar 2 cups finely ground graham crackers 1 to 2 cups nondairy dark chocolate. Mix all ingredients (except chocolate) together and refrigerate for a minimum of 30 minutes. Roll into 1 inch balls onto wax paper or aluminum foil. Double boil to melt the chocolate. This involves using two sauce pans, one smaller than the other. Boil at least two



These are questions about consent that me and a friend of mine put together for a workshop we helped put together. They helped spark a lot of really good and important discussions in our community, and hopefully will be helpful for you all too. We ask that you read and think honestly about these questions one at a time. (you certainly don't have to read the whole list in one sitting! In fact, we encourage you not to) We wrote them hoping to provoke thought, and so we ask that you not be defensive, and that you think about them deeply, because that's the only way that this can really help you and your community (You can always go to the photocopy and enlarge it if it's too overwhelming to read carefully this small)

1. How do you define consent? 2. Have you ever talked about consent with your partner(s) or friends? 3. Do you know people, or have you been with people who define consent differently than you do? 4. Have you ever been unsure about whether or not the person you were being sexual with wanted to be doing what you were doing? Did you talk about it? Did you ignore it in hopes that it would change? Did you continue what you were doing because it was pleasurable to you and you didn't want to deal with what the other person was experiencing? Did you continue because you didn't want to second guess the other person? Did you continue because you thought it was your duty? How do you feel about the choices you made? 5. Do you think it is the other person's responsibility to say something if they aren't into what you're doing? 6. How might someone express that what is happening is not ok? 7. Do you look only for verbal signs or are there other signs? 8. Do you think it is possible to misinterpret silence

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discussion, and because I like to see others strive for DIY ethics, of taking back our lives from the pitfalls of the dominant capitalist society. It is about something beyond just a music style, it is about a whole lifestyle.

That's why I'm excited about the Philly Skill Share that is happening in conjunction with the Pointless Fest. Robyn (former organizer of the Solidarity Fest in State College PA), Wiley and I have been conducting most of the organizing for the event, and the idea came to be during last year's Pointless Fest. Robyn and I were discussing how while we do like the punk shows, it would be nice to have some sort of activity during the day. With such a critical mass of people in town, most with a wealth of knowledge, why not set up a forum to use and spread all this DIY momentum? Well, that's our idea, and on Aug. 13&14 - a skill share/information exchange featuring workshops like biodiesel, solar energy, welding, collective businesses and more. If you are in Philly at the time, definitely stop in; it will be at the CODE space at 48th and Woodland. If you want more information email us at phillyskillshare@safe-mail.net or look at the website www.phillyskillshare.com

I know I wrote a column very similar to this last issue, but I feel that I haven't quite expressed the beauty of punk and punk ethics in everyday life enough. Yesterday at my house, I saw the healthy interaction of my community. PigPen is the staffing coordinator for the Wooden Shoe this month, and since his squat has no phone he used ours, while at the same time Robyn began setting up our zine library with all of our collective periodicals. The IMC building isn't open yet, so our house has become the Internet Cafe for all the Northwest Philly Anarchists - Sissy spent the day hot-wiring miscellaneous computer parts so we can have a second internet connection. Mark and I started worked on my van, so I could get it running because I needed to go to the Trader Joe's dumpster in order to get food for Eleanor's welcome home Potluck the next day. Community thrives when each member does their part for the collective good - and I see this often in these parts. This is the idea behind the skill share - to increase our own DIY skills - to remove ourselves from the exploitative society in which human interaction is based on personal gain. While I hate the commodification of Punk, I also hate the commodification of everyday life - and it is not a way I want to live. I want to believe in mutual aid, and unselfish acts - and I see enough around me to think it's more than a fantasy. We have built our little oppositional counter-culture and we should maintain it, since to me, punk is far more than some short, fast, loud guitar riffs.

ENDNOTES:

- Oh, before you write me off as an olde krusty who hates all music - I must say during the time of the Pointlessness I will be up front when Ineopsy plays, cause they... well... they just rock that much. So if your band rocks as much as Ineopsy, tell me and I will make sure to see you. But, I must warn you that if you all don't rock as much as you say, I will quickly become bored, which will result in me starting to heckle. So don't be claiming to be what you are not, 'cause I got a big mouth and I'm not afraid to use it. And these days I can heckle in multiple languages.

- I've written before about the need to vote in the USA, that while it is definitely not the be-all, end-all in working for social change, it is a method. Right now is definitely the time to register to vote for next fall's election because this country (and this planet) can't take another 4 years of Bush.

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be written in a stream-of-conscious manner - that way they would be more like conversations, instead of over-edited articles. Or maybe that is a poor excuse for the lack of quality in punk... haha... awww, but I am the type of person who craves zines banged out on ancient typewriters filled with typos instead of some glossy shit any day. Yea that's my story... so "Drink and be merry, my friends, for tomorrow we may..." (note from the proofreader: If you had seen what I have seen in the lines of Mike's unedited writing, you too would be shuddering when you read this endnote. We, the collected lot of anti-distortion knobs on the guitar of Mike's ideas, salute you, Mr Straight, for giving us a *raison d'être*. And smokes.)

—Mike Straight - straight@defensetrator.org

Oh yeah, my trip over the Atlantic got postponed until September, but then I will be back in Deutschland to "make big party" and get into long discussions with my old (and new) German friends about EU politics, gentrification, Marxist theory, & the formations of nationalism - and other topics I think about on a regular basis - hopefully over beers at one of the KOPI bars.

vegan action



Some activists have started to embrace neoprimitivism by striving to become more independent and consume less from big businesses and industries. In an effort to be more in touch with nature and our ancestry, some folks are moving back to the woods and living more autonomously. Over the last few years I have been meeting more and more road kill eaters, mostly at conferences and festivals. Some of them are even "road kill vegans." Is this a contradiction of terms or a sound, ecological way of life? Looking at this from a consumerism point of view, sure, everyone should be a road kill eater. The less we purchase, the better off the planet. And it's not like these animals are being hunted, they are already dead — relics of the car obsessed world we live in. So, why do I have this hesitation to promote road kill consumption? For one, it is not healthy. Granted wild animal flesh is hormone and antibiotic free (most likely) and most parasites can be killed as long as high temperatures are used in cooking, but it is still flesh. I know not all vegetarians and vegans made their diet choice because they did not like the taste of flesh but, animal flesh that has been sitting around on the side of the road for a while is a pretty challenging concept. Folks that live in the country and pass dead animals on a regular basis develop pretty good ideas of what is fresher and what has been sitting too long. It's the "dumpstening" of the roadways. I guess it gets easier the longer you do it. So, although these animals would not go to waste (as there are plenty of animals and organisms to take care of that) if someone wants to eat roadkill instead of buying food, I am hard pressed to personally object. More importantly, my issue is with the wearing and use of the animal for decoration or neoprimitive fashion. Again, I am reminded that the animal was already dead, not killed for it's parts. But I see the wearing of the skin and fur of animals as objectification in either case. These objects of "fashion" are not being used for necessity but as a show piece. After

FROM ASHES RISE @ Alley Katz, RVA 5/14/04

life. We no longer depend on our own labor for survival, we pay others to do this for us. And I agree that this separation of consumer and product, or "alienation" as Marx expressed, has distorted our concept of life and earth. Need and desire are not as easily separated in a country that has an overabundance of everything and where most people embrace the products of globalization and industrialization - unaware or uninterested in the process (and destruction). However, most ethical vegans would agree that they choose their diet and lifestyle in order to not support the destructive, unnatural, inhumane practices of factory farming and agribusiness. It is possible to boycott these industries and not hunt or fish to survive and be healthy.

Other than fishing with my dad when I was little, I have never killed or handled an animal to prepare it for consumption and I prefer not to. I would rather grow my own veggies and dig up a potato instead. That is my preference and I am not necessarily judging those that do otherwise. I do not believe that independent hunting and fishing is a practical option any longer. Wild animals are being killed, poisoned, starved and their habitat is being taken away at alarming rates. Rivers and bays are overfished and overharvested making us all wonder what creatures will be around in another fifty years. It is just not ecological to go back to our hunting and fishing days of the past, as unfair as that may seem. My point is not to support industrialization and modernization, as this is what has been running our world. If we are interested in revolutionary change, let us look toward the future not try to recapture the past. Taking our lives back is important and something we all may strive for. So, lets start growing our own food and respecting the earth and animals around us, who knows how much longer they will be there for us to appreciate and admire. xoxo- krissi p.o. box 4288 richmond va 23220 or krissi@vegan.org

Vegan Scalloped Potatoes: 5 thinly sliced medium potatoes 1 finely chopped medium onion Salt and pepper to taste ° cup nutritional yeast flakes ° cup flour 1 cup water 1/8 cup margarine 1 tsp garlic powder 1 tsp yellow mustard Pinch of turmeric Salt and pepper to taste Grease a glass or ceramic pie dish and place a layer of potatoes with sprinkled onion and spices on top, continue this for several layers ending with a layer of potatoes. In a sauce pan, add all of the dry ingredients and whisk in the water cooking until it is thick and bubbling. Remove from heat and whip in the margarine and mustard. Pour this over the potatoes and bake at 400 degrees for about 50 minutes.

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All band photos by
Chris Boarts Larson

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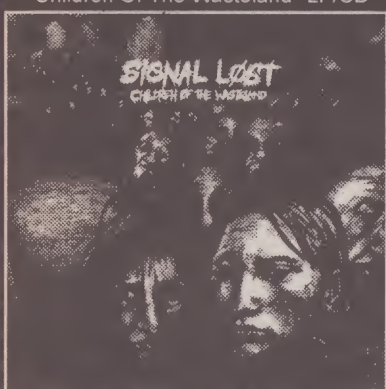
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SIGNAL LOST

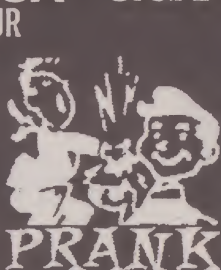
"Children Of The Wasteland" LP/CD



SUNDAY MORNING EINSTEINS
"KANGNAVE" LP/CD

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ON TOUR
EAST COAST/
SOUTH/MID-
WEST
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2004
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OCT / NOV
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richmond va 23220 or kris@vegan.org

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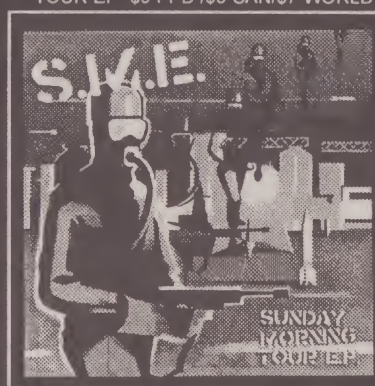
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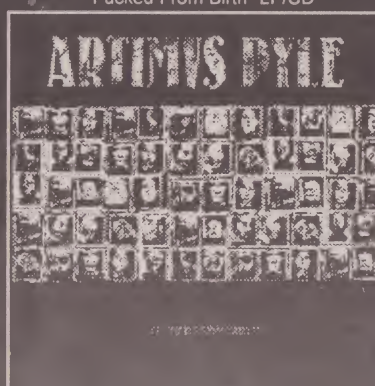
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for consent? 9. Have you ever asked someone what kinds of signs you should look for if they have a hard time verbalizing when something feels wrong? 10. Do you only ask about these kinds of things if you are in a serious relationship or do you feel comfortable talking in casual situations too? 11. Do you think talking ruins the mood? 12. Do you think consent can be erotic? 13. Do you think about people's abuse histories? 14. Do you check in as things progress or do you assume the original consent means everything is ok? 15. If you achieve consent once, do you assume it's always ok after that? 16. If someone consents to one thing, do you assume everything else is ok or do you ask before touching in different ways of taking things to more intense levels? 17. Are you resentful of people who want to or need to talk about being abused? Why? 18. Are you usually attracted to people who fit the traditional standard of beauty as seen in the united states? 19. Do you pursue friendship with people because you want to be with them, and then give up on the friendship if that person isn't interested in you sexually? 20. Do you pursue someone sexually even after they have said they just want to be friends? 21. Do you assume that if someone is affectionate they are probably sexually interested in you? 22. Do you think about affection, sexuality and boundaries? Do you talk about these issues with people? If so, do you talk about them only when you want to be sexual with someone or do you talk about them because you think it is important and you genuinely want to know? 23. Are you clear about your own intentions? 24. Have you ever tried to talk someone into doing something they showed hesitancy about? 25. Do you think hesitancy is usually a form of flirting? 26. Are you aware that in some instances it's not? 27. Have you ever thought someone's actions were flirtatious when that wasn't actually the message they wanted to get across? 28. Do you think that if someone is promiscuous that makes it ok to objectify them or talk about them in ways you normally wouldn't? 29. If someone is promiscuous, do you think it's less important to get consent? 30. Do you think that if someone dresses in a certain way it makes it ok to objectify them? 31. If someone dresses a certain way, do you think it means that they want your sexual attention or approval? 32. Do you understand that there are many other reasons, that have nothing to do with you, that a person might want to dress or act in a way that you might find sexy? 33. Do you think it's your responsibility or role to overcome another person's hesitancy by pressuring them or making light of it? 34. Have you every tried asking someone what they're feeling? If so, do you listen to them and respect them? 35. Do you think sex is a game? 36. Do you ever try to get yourself into situations that give you an excuse for touching someone you think would say no if you asked? ie. Dancing, getting really drunk around them, falling asleep next to. 37. Do you make people feel "unfun" or "unliberated" if they don't want to try certain sexual things? 38. Do you think there are ways you act that might make someone feel that way even if it's not what you're trying to do? 39. Do you ever try and make bargains? ie. "If you let me _____, I'll do _____ for you?" 40. Have you ever used jealousy as a means of control? 41. Have you made your partner(s) stop hanging out with certain friends, or limit their social interaction is general because of jealousy or insecurity? 41. Do you use jealousy to make your partner feel obligated to have sex with you? 42. Do you feel like being in a

relationship with someone means that they have an obligation to have sex with you? 43. What if they want to abstain from sex for a week? A month? A year? 44. Do you whine or threaten if you're not having the amount of sex or kind of sex that you want? 45. Do you think it's ok to initiate something sexual with someone who's sleeping? 46. What if the person is your partner? 47. Do you think it's important to talk with them about it when they're awake first? 48. Do you ever look at how you interact with people or how you treat people, positive or negative, and where that comes from where you learned it? 49. Do you behave differently when you've been drinking? 50. What are positive aspects of drinking for you? What are negative aspects? 51. Have you been sexual with people when you were drunk or when they were drunk? Have you ever felt uncomfortable or embarrassed about it the next day? Has the person you were with ever acted weird to you afterward? 52. Do you seek consent the same way when you are drunk as when you're sober? 53. Do you think it is important to talk the next day with the person you've been sexual with if there has been drinking involved? If not, if it because it's uncomfortable or because you think something might have happened that shouldn't have? Or is it because you think that's just the way things go? 54. Do you think people need to take things more lightly? 55. Do you think these questions are repressive and people who look critically at their sexual histories and their current behavior are uptight and should be more "liberated"? 56. Do you think liberation might be different for different people? 57. How do you react if someone becomes uncomfortable with what you're doing, or if they don't want to do something? Do you get defensive? Do you feel guilty? Does the other person end up having to take care of you and reassure you or are you able to

step back and listen and hear them and support them and take responsibility for your actions? 58. Do you tell your side of the story and try and change the way they experienced the situation? 59. Do you do things to show your partner that you're listening and that you're interested in their ideas about consent or their ideas about what you did? 60. Do you ever talk about sex and consent when you're not in bed? 61. Have you ever raped or sexually abused or sexually manipulated someone? Are you able to think about your behavior? Have you make changes? What kinds of changes? 62. Are you uncomfortable with your body or your sexuality? 63. Have you been sexually abused? 63. Has your own uncomfortableness or your own abuse history caused you to act in abusive ways? If so, have you ever been able to talk to anyone about it? Do you think talking about it is could be helpful? 64. Do you avoid talking about consent or abuse because you aren't ready to or don't want to talk about your own sexual abuse? 65. Do you ever feel obligated to have sex? 66. Do you ever feel obligated to initiate sex? 67. What if days or months or years later, someone tells you they were uncomfortable with what you did. Do you grill them? 68. Do you initiate conversations about safe sex and birth control (if applicable)? 69. Do you think saying something as vague as "I've been tested recently" is enough? 70. Do you take your partners concerns about safe sex and/or birth control seriously? 71. Do you think that if one person wants to have safe sex and the other person doesn't really care, it is the responsibility of the person who has concerns to provide safe sex supplies? 72. Do you think if a person has a body that can get pregnant, and they don't want to, it is up to them to provide birth control? 73. Do you complain or refuse safe sex or the type of birth control your partner wants to use because it reduces your pleasure? 74. Do you try to manipulate your partner



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Binsteins
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about these issues? 75. Are you usually attracted to people with a certain kind of gender presentation? 76. Have you ever objectified someone's gender presentation? 77. Do you assume that each person who fits a certain perceived gender presentation will interact with you in the same way? 78. Do you find yourself repeating binary gender behaviors, even within queer relationships and friendships? How might you doing that make others feel? 79. Do you view sexuality and gender presentation as part of a whole person, or do you consider those to be exclusively sexual aspects of people? 80. If someone is dressed in drag, do you take it as an invitation to make sexual comments? 81. Do you fetishize people because of their gender presentation? 82. Do you think only men abuse? 83. Do you think that in a relationship between people of the same gender, only the one who is more "manly" abuses? 84. Do you think there is ongoing work that we can do to end sexual violence in our communities?

Lost In The Supermarket with greg wells



A Library for Every Neighborhood

In the past decade there has been a proliferation of radical media throughout the US. Countless hundreds of independently published periodicals, journals, newspapers and 'zines make the rounds every year. Some last for many, many years while others come, create an impressive body of work and disappear almost before we even get a chance to appreciate them. The micro and pirate radio movement of the late 80's/early 90's has mushroomed into a massive battle with the FCC and Federal

and local governments over the homogenization of corporate owned radio, winning important struggles over the right to free speech and the importance of a truly diverse representation of voices on the airwaves. Perhaps the greatest tool of all for those not spoken for in the mainstream media has been the explosion of the Internet since the mid 1990's. With the Internet continuing to gain accessibility, people now can for the first time in history not only instantaneously have the option of reading and dissecting an issue like 911 from a widespread diversity of voices and cultures, they can take things one step further and directly participate in the dialogue by contributing to the public discourse on the Internet. One can search a topic from a variety of locales and stitch together a more balanced, thorough overview of an important topic, if you can't find what you're looking for or disagree with what is offered you can literally become the media and publish your own views and accounts of that which represents you.

In Richmond, Virginia members of my community of radicals and allies have experimented with many forms of media creation and information sharing over the years. In 1996, when I first arrived and began to plug in with various organizations one of the first things I got involved with was a local youth based, anarchist-oriented collective that was self publishing a free quarterly community newsletter that had as its primary focus issues and stories about the poor and marginalized citizens of Richmond. We did fundraisers and paid out of pocket for the 1,000 press-run which we passed out at events, homeless meal sharings, rallies and left in stores and businesses around the downtown area. Although it was a small circulation, many folks came to enjoy our area of coverage and looked forward to each issue.

Feeling media plays a crucial role in shaping and nurturing the mindset and the value system of many folks, we knew it was extremely important to create a strong

radical counter voice to that which poisons us everyday. In addition to the newsletter we worked with a local pirate radio station, a cable access station and brought in countless activists from around the country to lead workshops and teach-ins. Ironically enough it was a tiny little project that we started near the end of our existence that thrives to this day.

A local used bookstore was having a giant fifty percent off blowout sale. About seven or eight of us pooled our finances and went to the sale with the intent of picking up as many radically themed titles as we could get our hands on. Being that there were many of us there, we collected a pretty diverse area of interest amongst our fifty or so selections. We brought them to the home of one of the collective members, organized the books and printed out a list of titles and a sign out sheet for larger numbers of people to come and utilize the books. A small, independent library was born.

The following year, six of us, including four former members of the defunct collective moved into a house together and inherited the books. We lived in a grand old house with ample room for a variety of projects ranging from bike repair and sewing supplies to a flourishing garden in the back. However, we decided our centerpiece would be an expanded version of the radical library in a sizable room in our house. By the time we combined the old books with the personal collections of six individuals with varied tastes, the collection had swollen from a few dozen books to several hundred. In addition to the books, we added a two-drawer file cabinet with national underground periodicals and a healthy number of file folders on local issues as well as two, Internet accessible computers. A small pamphlet and zine section was added also. Once we got things cleaned up and organized we put word out to everyone we knew and in turn everyone they knew about the resources that we had available for perusing and check out.

What naturally happened over the course of years was that more and more people became aware of the library and benefited from its existence. Although the six of us had pretty voracious appetites for reading and were always buying new books and adding them to the collection, what really made the library grow was when others who felt like the library was an extension of them began to donate their personal collections of 'zines and files and books in new areas of coverage that we were thin in. By the time the house disbanded in 2002 and three of us moved the library four blocks over in the same neighborhood the library had swollen to twice the size it was three years earlier.

Today with the library in a new house we have over 2,000 books, 1,500 periodicals, 500 'zines and pamphlets, twenty plus file folders on local issues and

another fifty on national issues. We continue to get donations and visits from new faces all of the time. The desire for radical and alternative forms of media is stronger than ever. In Richmond we undoubtedly have the largest collection of books that you're not likely to find in the city library system. We have an extensive collection of books on gender politics, anarchism, feminism, third world struggles, do-it-yourself guides and anti-capitalism. Wouldn't it be great if there were hundreds of household libraries in every neighborhood in every city and town, each one offering its own unique slice of life for their neighborhood's interests and hobbies? Instead of having to depend on a city library's confusing hours, bland and mainstream book titles and government surveillance of computers we can all get busy creating our own visions for the libraries we would like to see. Get in touch with us to share and brainstorm for the neighborhood library revolution.

Notes: The Flying Brick Library is always looking for zines, periodicals, pamphlets and audio and video materials for our collection. Please send all donations to the address below.

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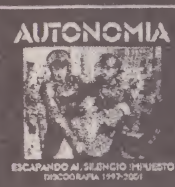
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ZINE REVIEWS

Ab #3 June 04 (\$2/Light Living Lib./PO Box 190/Phm OR 97370) This is another publication brought to us by the same people behind Dwelling Portably, and with a similar focus—that of sharing information about how and where to live better, as in staying away from political and economic systems and structures and trying to seek out a more free way of living off the beaten path. This is a reader contribution collection, where each participant sends in their own formatted pages, which means that the writing style as well as the look of each contribution is different, but the focus is on small text and readability, not on graphics a certain look. The contributions in this issue include experiences and advice as a stripper in New Orleans, gliders as transportation, there are a couple of reprints from MRR columns (one from Crimethinc on voting, and one from Jessica Mills on kids clothing choices), concerns over plastics and microwave radiation, and quite a bit more. Plus reviews of other similar minded alternative publications and a catalog of dwelling portably issues that are available. (-Chris)

ARTCORE #21 summer 2004 (c/o 1 Aberdualis Rd/Gaballa/ Cardiff CF14 2PH Wales UK <artcore@nitworld.com / www.fourletterword.org.uk) This is always an awesome zine. Welly makes it look great and does a great job of interviewing new hardcore and punk bands and dragging up old interviews and lengthy informative pieces on old bands from the 80s (usually US hardcore bands). This issue is the "Flyer Art Issue" and came out in conjunction w'an exhibit, and has some great writing about the history of punk through show flyers, as well as info on the flyers themselves and the artists who make them and the ways in which punk flyer art fits into the world of art, graffiti, public interaction and history. Good stuff here. There are current interviews w/7 Seconds and Knife Fight, and there's a fantastic write up about the history of JFA (who were my first favorite punk band and this tells me more than I ever knew about them then), plus a write up on Moving Targets and Battalion of Saints, and an old interview from 1983 with Touch & Go Records. All around solid zine that really does a service in chronicling the history of hardcore and punk of the past and present. And it's always a great looking graphic zine too! (-Chris)

BABIES DEAD #13 (\$/ Alex/ Woodhouse The Square, Gunnislake/Cornwall, PL18 9BW U.K.) This time around Alex decided to scrape the usual features and go with the "UK Zines" theme issue. Interviews with over a dozen zine editors out of the U.K. I have to say that even though I'm unfamiliar with the majority of the publications featured, I read every interview. Due in no small part to zine editors being better interview subjects than bands (makes sense really). Especially recommended to those in the U.K. who are on the prowl for more zines to check out. (-Andy)

BEHIND THE TIMES #2 (Postage 2/191 Benjamin St/Schenectady, NY 12303/helario@yahoo.com) Punk and h.c. zine out of NY state featuring interviews with Haymaker, Talk Hard, Outta Hand, and a lengthy exchange with Ken of Prank Records. Also features a history of the band Life's Blood. Boring computer n' cut layout with band photos strewn about. Nonetheless, the writing is decent and interviews fairly engaging. I found the band comparisons to be slightly off, as well as bland. I'd put them on the level of my equally bland reviews for this publication. I'm looking forward to seeing this project develop. (-Andy)

BLACKTHORN #4 (Free-send postage/PO Box 11046/Portland, OR 97211) Another issue of my favorite domestic Anarchist publication. Presented by the Blackthorn Collective out of Portland, Oregon. I've been in love since issue #1, and it just keeps getting better! Great content, layout and well done lush artwork. I would pick this up for the artwork alone! This particular issue contains extensive features on: the collective's safe space policy, a Bike's Across Borders tour, a Living Under Lies tour diary focusing on their bio-diesel run tour vehicle (amazing!), a history of and update on political happenings in Chile, plus more. Eye opening articles that are factual but avoid being dry, like so many other "political" publications. Highly recommended! (-Andy)

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BOB #3 (2/Outhouse Publishing/30 Locust Ave/Westmont, NJ 08108) A full-size, 32 page general interest underground publication that I, personally, could live

person speaking for all queers thing. I suggest interviewing various people or else just interviewing your friend instead of trapping him in the "I can only ask you about gay stuff" box. The big article on political parties in the U.S., each rated with a "Crazy Meter" was a waste of space—they should all get a "Ten", dude. I would read this if I found it on someone's couch. Ok, what's with the "pre-production" copy for review? Either you produce a zine or you don't, right? (Ryan Mishap)

BREAK THE CHAINS Newsletter #18 (\$2/free to prisoners in OR, CA, ID, WA & all women prisoners/PO BOX 12122/Eugene, OR 97440) Disclaimer: I was a member of the BTC prisoner support group for a year and currently coordinate BTC's pen-pal program—so I'm biased! Inside the spring 2004 ish: editorial providing a round-up of events, projects, plans, "The Problem with Anarchist Ego" by Jeff Luers, a poem by Sherman Austin and one by Chrystos, "Gender Violence and the Prison Industrial

STRIKE ANYWHERE

by Alley Katz 5/14/04



Complex" by Critical Resistance, abuse in Oregon's prisons, "What Constitutes a Political Prisoner" from a native viewpoint, and much more. Nearly everything was worth reading this time and I would encourage everyone with any interest in prisons/prisoners to pick up a copy and, get involved where you live. (Ryan Mishap)

CRITICAL MASS #1 (\$2/ And A. Lusla/PO Box 71357/Pittsburgh, PA 15213 <jallayalla@hotmail.com>) Fuck yeah! I've never been a bike messenger or a mechanic, but I sure do love riding my beat up old no speed clunker named scrap anywhere and everywhere. This zine made me want to get out of bed at 2am and go for a ride even though it was pouring rain. I stayed snuggled under the covers instead and read on about fantastic women, their bikes, struggles with the always male dominated world (and the bicycle world is no fucking different) and the total empowerment of bike riding. Great screened cover, printed on reused paper, good cut-n-paste layout, excellent collection of writers, actions, activities and interesting bike accessories. I had a huge grin on my face and chills of excitement going on the whole time I was reading Critical Mass. YOU MUST ORDER A COPY TODAY!!! Trades are welcome, but you should e-mail/write first. (-karoline)

COLDHANDSANDHEART #18 (\$2ppd 42 cps 1/4 sz. Mike Twohit/72-1 Meadow Farm South/North Chili, NY 14514) The cartoons in this little zine are both striking and lively, featuring exaggerated and contorted figures done in a scratchy sketchbook style that is truly gripping. Most of the zine is single page drawings with accompanying text about an observation Mike has made. The subject matter ranges from personal accounts of bands he has seen to a bike accident that he had, to the blending of entertainment and politics in this crazy world we live in. There are also quite a few really abstract cartoons in here. For example, there is one titled "Accusational Identity Arsenal," with an illustration of what appears to be a two-headed man-monster biling itself in the back. The zine is explained by the author in the introduction as a "product of a consumed observationist." On a scale from one to ten, I'd say it's pretty nifty. (-Dug)

COMPLETE CONTROL #12 (\$3ppd/PO Box 502/VRichmond VA 23220) Half of this is writing about Richmond and the various social and political news events in recent months worth discussing, such as a police raid on a house show party that turned into a pepper spray police riot, and the rapid expansion of the VCU university campus into neighboring communities, including a huge fire in an under construction student housing complex that spread to many local businesses and private homes, to devastating effect. These articles read like newspaper articles to a degree, with witness accounts in quotes and the like, in part because some of these stories have been posted to the local Indymedia site. There is also a somewhat sentimental story about the collective house started in Richmond that became the hub of anarchist activities around town, and how that house eventually split up and now Greg and a few housemates have moved a couple blocks to a new collective home, which is permanent. There is an article about the Fulton Hill Community center, which is the

looking for city center parks, greasy spoons, anarchist landmarks and collective spaces and info shops. Greg's lost his connection with copies, so he's having to charge for the zine much to his dismay these days. (-Chris)

CONTACTS / PENPALS NEWSLETTER #9-11 (Stamps? Anna Key/ Westmead/ Green St/ Little Hadham, NR, Herts, SG11, 2EE/ England/ Richard.Westerman@talk21.com) Newsletter from Great Britain to help you find contacts for pen pals, zines, hot sex, animal rights groups, and people into "watersports." Kind of like a kinky, less punk version of S&L (Sign me up!). If you're looking for DIY contacts in the U.K. you might want to pick this up. Excuse me, I have to find my swim trunks and go to the U.K. to check out these "watersports" they speak of. (-Andy)

CRACKS IN THE WALL \$2ppd or trade. 48 pgs 1/2 size. (Andy/2 Tinkham Glenn/ Wilbraham, MA 01095) This zine very well could have been a college philosophy dissertation. The writing, and there is a LOT of it, deals mostly with the pathological, technocratic society we live in and world we are creating and how that society is

making life less pleasurable and less enjoyable. The media, the government, the economy, and technology are numbing us, isolating us, and cutting us off from the greatness that the universe and the world have to offer. This zine is "a weapon of mass deconstruction," and a call to stop questioning all the why's of life, to live simply and simply live. To quote directly from C.I.T.W.: "With an increase in abstraction comes a decrease in the awareness of life!" The argument is put forth in a well-organized manner, even if the presentation and layout are cluttered and messy. If you like big words stung together in a philosophical manner describing our tragically sad modern existence, you should really order this, like, right now. (-Dug)

CRASH #5 (\$2.50/PO BOX 20455/Newark, NJ 07101) The Nov. 2003 issue bills itself as the "Civil Rights & Election Issue", but that claim proves exaggerated. There's a rant about the RIAA & music swapping, a woman who works with people in prison on art briefly shares two people's stories, pop stars appropriating other culture's art/teligion, and two opinion pieces by Kirsten Anderberg: plea bargains and Miranda questioning. I could care less about computer music stuff and the "punk voter" graphics apparently cover the "election" part (ugh). The bizarre rant about "Fight Club", "Vanilla Sky", and the self/computers/technology—well, shit, here's a quote: "It's already known that the human brain can be modeled on a computer and vice versa... we might as well take advantage." No thanks, cyborg! I can't really recommend this zine, but the piece on how prosecutors pile up charges to coerce

pleas is important. (Ryan Mishap)

DEBBIE & MICHELLE BREAK FREE #1 (2/Anna Key/Westmead Green St/Little Hadham, NR Ware,Herts,SG11, 2EE/England/ Richard.Westerman@talk21.com) Fictional short story with the basic premise being: Two young females, scarred from abuse by the hands of their former Catholic school headmaster. They come back to wreck havoc and revenge in a cathartic mind bondage breaking release. I totally dig the concept. But the writing tends to be overly adjective filled and the character development leaves a bit to be desired. Not bad though. If you can relate to the premise you may want to check this out. (-Andy)

DIY GUIDE!! (donation/PO Box 2133/Greensboro NC 27402) This is the new edition of the DIY Guide from the Urban Pirates at Crimethinc. Printed in the same half-sized format on newsprint, this issue is even thicker. I figure that this is the kind of thing that everyone should have. It's not necessarily the kind of thing you need to read cover to cover, but it's important to have some reference materials and also to get some inspiration sometimes. So if you are looking to make your own belts and bags, change your oil, build a quarter pipe, or if you need some advice on self-releasing records, CDs, zines and the like, publishing a book, starting a local Food Not Bombs chapter, making your own egg noodles, or a plaster molds, or learning basic B&W photography, tattooing yourself with a safety pin, or learning how to do public stencil art, wheatpasting or other forms of public protest art, well you can find all of that in here. As well as info about organizing protests, trainhopping, backpack travel, shoplifting and herbal abortions and plenty of other things that I would advise using a grain of salt and further education or thought before jumping into. However, there is a wealth of info here to inspire you to be more creative and artistic and hopefully take some project initiative. Get a bunch of these and hand them out to your friends and share your ideas and information far and wide, but don't think that this is the end all be all authority either, cause that is not the point, sharing, empowerment and liberation is. (-Chris)

DON'T HAVE A COW #2 (\$3.50/\$4 Can/Mex/\$5 world/John Johnson/PO Box 8145/ Reno NV 89507) This is the latest installment of this great vegan cookine, which goes beyond just delivering recipes and delves into correspondence and some debate and ideological approaches to veganism and vegetarianism. In fact only half of this is recipes, had the other half contains articles along the lines of dealing with meat eaters during the holidays - including special veg recipes you can contribute and share with family members who don't get it. Debates on raw foods and GM foods, news bits, moral issues of meat eating, meditating on/with cows, food and headaches, the case for animal liberation, plus reviews of other food zines. By the way John will trade for any other food zine/publications out there. This cookine takes a new direction at the format, and I like the inclusion of the articles and further info, along with the recipes and current events and ongoing topical debated issues. (-Chris)

discovered feminism, her thoughts on identifying as an anarchy-feminist, her activities with a local women's health collective, community support of her work, and the issues of being an anarchist and how privilege affects our lives. This is a great interview and gives a bit of a guideline for Cindy to talk about her thoughts, ideas, activities and experiences. She also writes about isolation, alienation and self hate. She writes about high school sexual experiences and refers to the abuse from a step-brother and how much that still fucks her up. She writes about gathering edible plants in the woods, and spending time in the country planting in the garden and helping to build a cob house. There is so much great writing here, and while much of it is sad and/or deals with hard topics, it's really important that she is talking about these issues and putting a voice out there to help others talk about their experiences. This is a fantastic issue, and I feel like there is still a lot of hope in these words. (-Chris)

DUMPSTERED IVAN (\$2/dug Belar/707 E. Wright St/Milwaukee WI 53212) If you don't get the puns like me, you'll say "who is Ivan?" and then, go "Oh Duh, ha ha, Ivan is just dumpster divan," and this is a clever little comic about Ivan and his dives. This is actually a collection of several issues, or shorts about Ivan on his various adventures to alleys and dumpsters, finding hot food, donuts, bowl smoking dudes, videos, and other goodies and treats. Fueled by coffee and the desire to roam, "in garbage he craves" and finds the goods. This is a good time, well drawn and the stories even rhyme. (-Chris)

FIGHT BACK! #1 (1.50/free to prisoners/3124 Shattuck Ave/Berkeley, CA 94705/ fightback@riseup.net) This is a new political oriented zine out of the bay area. It focuses on many different issues from all over the world. Included in this issue is a history of mayday as a workers holiday which is complimented by an update on this years may day demonstration in Berlin. There is a report on the hilarity house in Oakland which is the oldest squat still existing in that area and now under threat of eviction. There is an update on the aftermath of the Genoa riots 3 years ago. The last section of the zine is an interesting interview with two people who run an anarchist info shop in New Zealand. This zine has a really strong orientation towards squatting and prisoner support so if anyone has any squat reports from their town they should send them in. (European)

FRAIL ROOTS #2 (trade/donation/ Kyle/ 136 Tanglewood Dr/ Longview WA 98632) This is a cool little 1/4 sized zine with a spraypaint designed cover. It's a quiet emo sort of zine that takes a different voice from what that implies. This is very honest and down to earth. Thoughts, observations and an appreciation for the good things. Like trying to express the gratitude for those who are generous and open their lives to others. Kyle writes about the things that most people take for granted, and it plants seeds of thought that will grow at unexpected times - making you ride your bike in the rain, or open your house to strangers or buy a bus

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Complex" by Critical Resistance, abuse in Oregon's prisons, "What Constitutes a Political Prisoner" from a native viewpoint, and much more. Nearly everything was worth reading this time and I would encourage everyone with any interest in prisons/prisoners to pick up a copy and, get involved where you live. (Ryan Mishap)

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pleas is important. (Ryan Mishap)

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DORIS 22 (\$1.50ppd/PO Box 1734/Asheville NC 28802) This issue is kinda different from the last several for 2 reasons: first of all it's printed on newsprint still in the half-size format, and second it's a break out from the alphabet subject issues and delves into Cindy both past and present. She's been working hard with herself and community to tackle the hard subject of sexual abuse. She writes in here about her experiences while young, and how it formed her opinions of herself and her sexuality, and how hard it still is to fight that which has been ingrained in an unhealthy manner. There's a great interview with Cindy that she has printed which talks about how she

towards squatting and prisoner support so if anyone has any squat reports from their town they should send them in. (european)

FRAIL ROOTS #2 (trade/donation/ Kyle/ 136 Tanglewood Dr/ Longview WA 98632) This is a cool little 1/4 sized zine with a spraypaint designed cover. It's a quiet emo sort of zine that takes a different voice from what that implies. This is very honest and down to earth. Thoughts, observations and an appreciation for the good things. Like trying to express the gratitude for those who are generous and open their lives to others. Kyle writes about the things that most people take for granted, and it plants seeds of thought that will grow at unexpected times - making you ride your bike in the rain, or open your house to strangers or buy a bus

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AMANDA ROGERS 'DAILY NEWS'

Armed with only her piano, her sincere lyrics, and her smoldering voice, Amanda Rogers

highly, a history of and update on political happenings in Ohio, plus more... political opening articles that are factual but avoid being dry, like so many other "political" publications. Highly recommended! (-Andy)

BLURTI #1 (\$2/Lew c/b Vinylaprintprint 135 Wapwallopen Rd/Nescopec, PA 18635 <vinylagogo.com>) I must say that I was sold the minute my girl Christine handed this to me...it just kinda screams "read me!". A thick pocket sized slab of stories from the pen wielding genius behind "Tales of a Traveling Panty Salesman". Most of the stories are about growing up in Nescopeck, a small agricultural/railroad town in North Eastern PA. Lew reminisces about adventures in the woods, friendships, discovering punk rock, collecting fever, a couple of tour/ crush tales, going to college in Kutztown, PA, making a movie, bicycles and setting up shows. Not necessarily in that order and certainly not limited to my brief listing of topics. Incredible writing/story telling with good cut-n-paste layout that really draws your eye to the pages. I'm incredibly impressed with Blurt! and I definitely had a pang of regret when I got to the last page. This is one of those zines you never want to end. If you cut your teeth on a small punk rock scene anywhere in the midwest/mid east, you will find yourself smiling in reminiscence and recognition. Make your own fun with whatever you can find around you. Highly recommended, can't wait to see the next issue! (-karoline)

BOB #3 (2/ Outhouse Publishing/ 30 Locust Ave/ Westmont, NJ 08108) A full-size, 32 page general interest underground publication that I, personally, could live without. But I'm glad people do zines! The editorial says: "...plan on reading more articles about grass-roots work...to not only bring art to us all, but to make life just a bit better in some unique way." I can support that. Inside: an interview with some dude that ran for small-town mayor, an article on the psychology of blogging (not that I'm a big fan of those, but it was kind of harsh—"Trite commentary on everyday living or angst-ridden prose..."—just don't turn your meanie words onto zines, buck-o!), an interview with photographer Bert Katz and artist Mari Hoggs. Ok, the interview with his gay friend falls into the old trap of the one gay

personal accounts of bands he has seen to a bike accident that he had, to the blending of entertainment and politics in this crazy world we live in. There are also quite a few really abstract cartoons in here. For example, there is one titled "Accusational Identity Arsenal," with an illustration of what appears to be a two-headed man-monster biting itself in the back. The zine is explained by the author in the introduction as a "product of a consumed observationist." On a scale from one to ten, I'd say it's pretty nifty. (-Dug)

COMPLETE CONTROL #12 (\$3ppd/PO Box 5021/Richmond VA 23220) Half of this is writing about Richmond and the various social and political news events in recent months worth discussing, such as a police raid on a house show/party that turned into a pepper spray police riot, and the rapid expansion of the VCU university campus into neighboring communities, including a huge fire in an under construction student housing complex that spread to many local businesses and private homes, to devastating effect. These articles read like newspaper articles to a degree, with witness accounts in quotes and the like, in part because some of these stories have been posted to the local Indy Media site. There is also a somewhat sentimental story about the collective house started in Richmond that became the hub of anarchist activities around town, and how that house eventually split up and now Greg and a few housemates have moved a couple blocks to a new collective home, which is permanent. There is an article about the Fulton Hill Community center, which is the neighborhood that I live in, and the community center is a block away from me in what used to be the local post office. Greg compares the city planning of Louisville with all of it's successes to that of Richmond, whose city planners are currently going overboard trying to rebuild the entire town, one block at a time. The second half of this is an attempt to review various cities Greg has traveled to, always on a tight time crunch, and his interest in urban planning is kind of the focus, describing the feel of each place what why it works, or doesn't (often in comparison to Richmond). This could be used as a starting point for some places to check out in each city, if you're

shoplifting and herbal abortions and plenty of other things that I would advise using a grain of salt and further education or thought before jumping into. However, there is a wealth of info here to inspire you to be more creative and artistic and hopefully take some project initiative. Get a bunch of these and hand them out to your friends and share you ideas and information far and wide, but don't think that this is the end all be all authority either, cause that is not the point, sharing, empowerment and liberation is. (-Chris)

DON'T HAVE A COW #2 (\$3.50/\$4 Can/Mex/\$5 world/John Johnson/PO Box 8145/ Reno NV 89507) This is the latest installment of this great vegan cookzine, which goes beyond just delivering recipes and delves into correspondence and some debate and ideological approaches to veganism and vegetarianism. In fact only half of this is recipes, had the other half contains articles along the lines of dealing with meat eaters during the holidays - including special veg recipes you can contribute and share with family members who don't get it. Debates on raw foods and GM foods, news bits, moral issues of meat eating, meditating on/with cows, food and headaches, the case for animal liberation, plus reviews of other food zines. By the way John will trade for any other food zine/publications out there. This cookzine takes a new direction at the format, and I like the inclusion of the articles and further info, along with the recipes and current events and ongoing topical debated issues. (-Chris)

DORIS 22 (\$1.50ppd/PO Box 1734/Asheville NC 28802) This issue is kinda different from the last several for 2 reasons: first of all it's printed on newsprint still in the half-size format, and second it's a break out from the alphabet subject issues and delves into Cindy both past and present. She's been working hard with herself and community to tackle the hard subject of sexual abuse. She writes in here about her experiences while young, and how it formed her opinions of herself and her sexuality, and how hard it still is to fight that which has been ingrained in an unhealthy manner. There's a great interview with Cindy that she has printed which talks about how she

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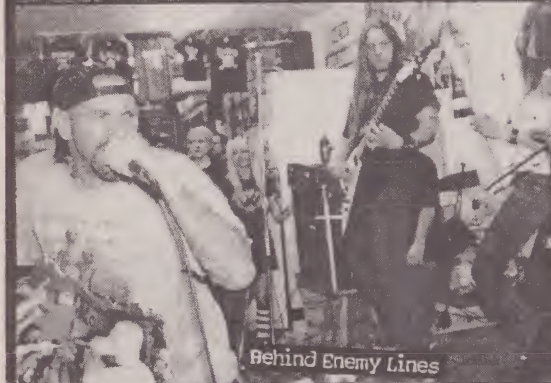
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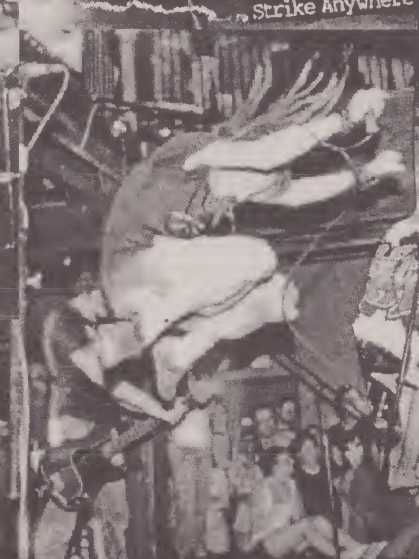
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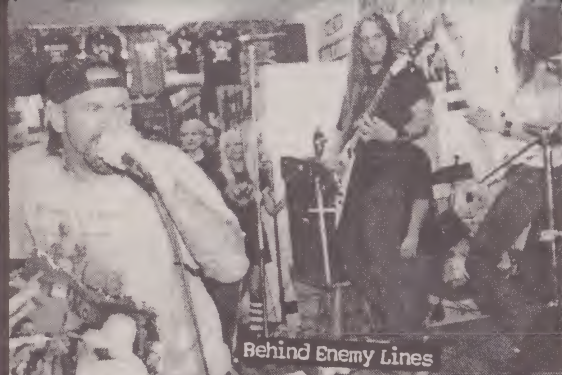


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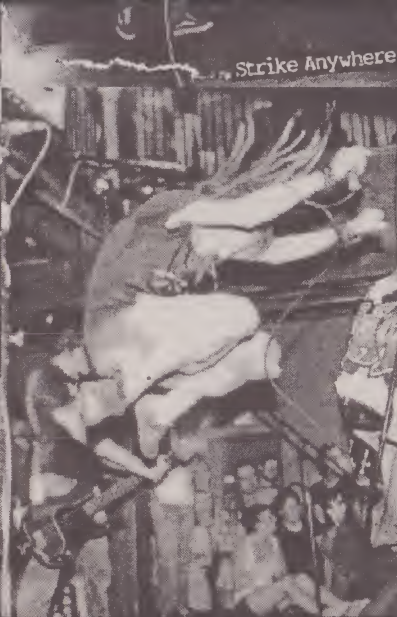


Born/Dead





Behind Enemy Lines



Strike Anywhere



Actimus Pyle



Born/Dead



From Ashes Rise



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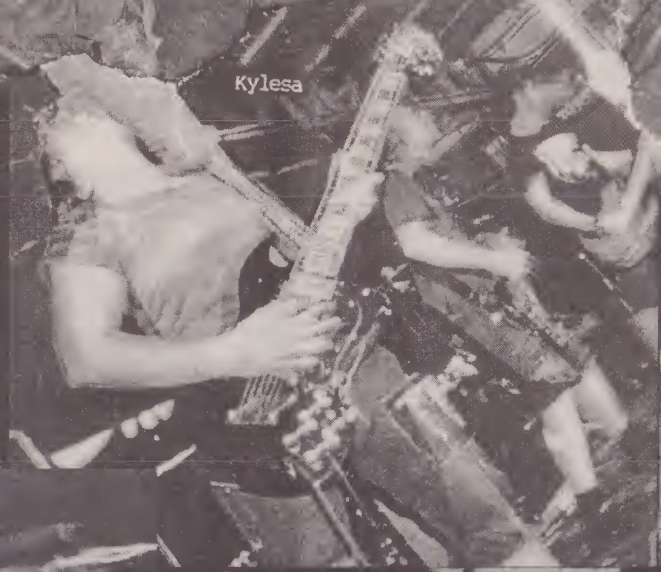
Aphasia



Aghast



Flak



Kylesa





From Ashes Rise

Kylesa

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Paintbox

Sunday Morning
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Tragedy

Flak

From Ashes Rise



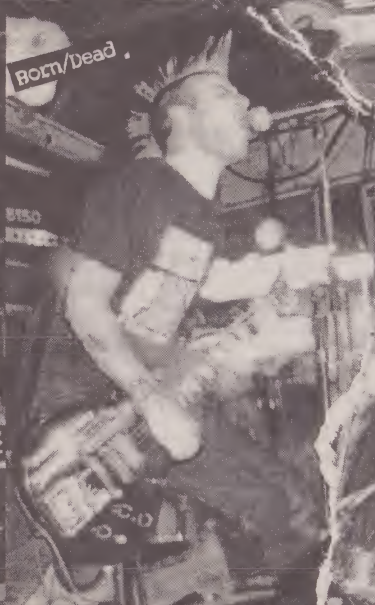
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Lost Words



Actimus Pyle



Born/Dead



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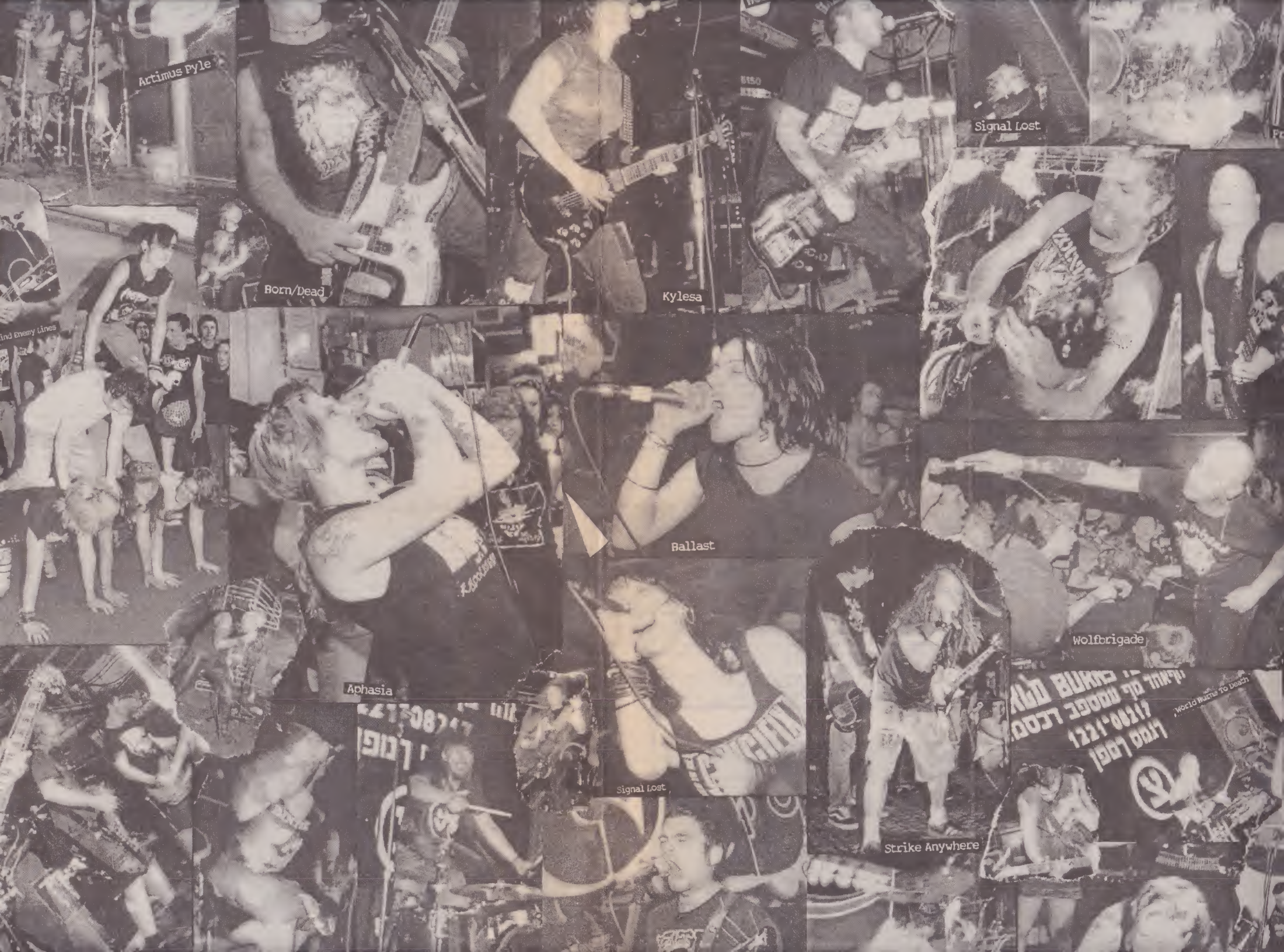
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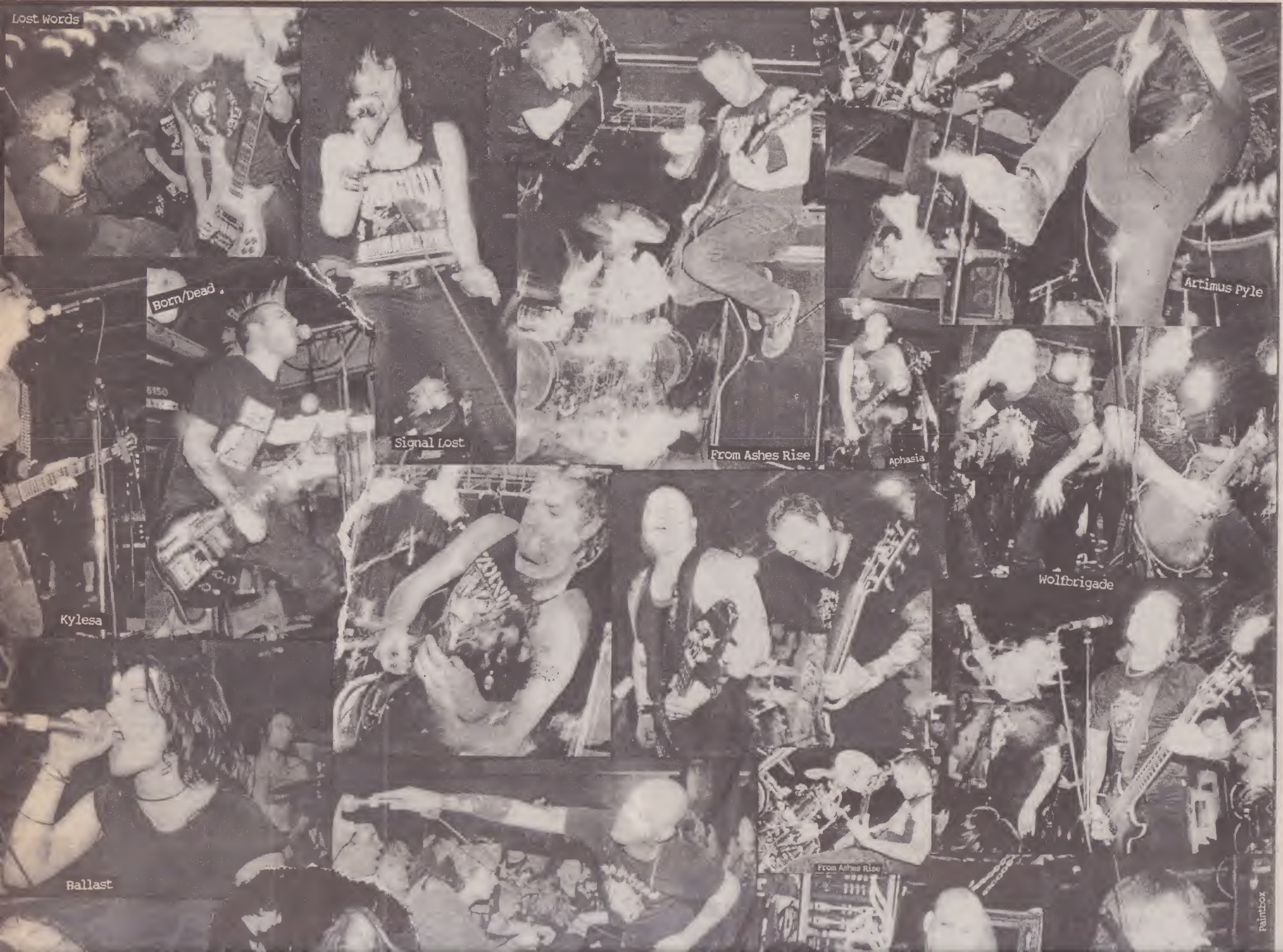
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World Burns to Death



LIVING THE PUNK ROCK CHAOS - SLUG & LETTUCE SUMMER 2004 - ALL PHOTOS BY CHRIS BOARTS LARSON



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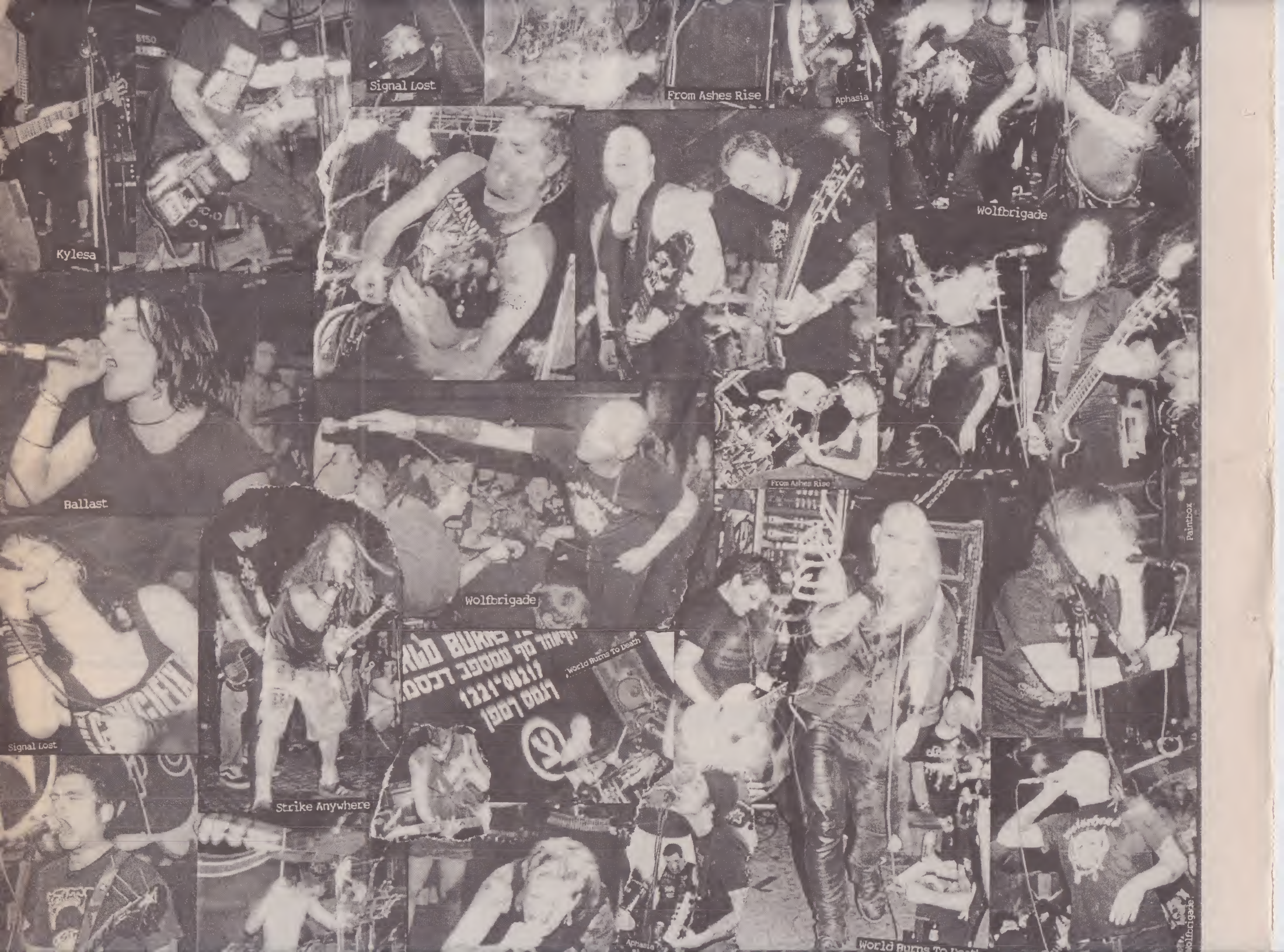
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ZINES

ticket one way to somewhere unknown. Of wanting to take a chance, but being scared, and being able to admit it. This is a gem. (-Chris)
GO VEGANS! (\$2/Senka/Presema 90/24116 Subotica/Serbia CG) This is a small (as in few pages) cook zine that includes some basic recipes, more like tips for vegan cooking. It's really basic stuff, like cooking with tofu, making pastes, burgers, marinates, veggie balls, dips, pies and pie dough, ice cream, puddings, cakes, soy crackers, seifans and soy proteins. This is a good guide for someone who is trying to just get started eating vegan and wants to be able to eat cheap and easily. (-Chris)

GUITARS AND SCREAMS - PUNK & HARDCORE IN CZECH (Filip Fuchs/Crohova 39/602 00 Brno Czech Rep/orba@seznam.cz) This is actually a book, not a zine, but since it's all in Czech and I can't read a word of it and can only tell you what it looks like, and it looks fucking awesome, this review is in the zine section. This is a book of the history of the Czech punk scene. It's a proper bound book, about 3/4 inch thick, put together well with loads of photos and well it's awesome. There is an English summary in the back which explains the political climate of Czechoslovakia in the '70s, when it was under communist rule and extreme censorship. Needless to say this meant that punks and punk music was completely underground as well as extremely isolated. The hostile environment of police repression still managed to produce a unique and strong punk movement. This book explains the times and the various strains of punk that developed in the '70s and through the 80s with an ever changing political climate that even when accepting was still completely intolerant to the non-conformist outspoken nature of punk rock. We get a history of the bands chronicled with the ever growing changes with the times, that which was somewhat tolerated and that which remained totally radical. There were no punk records before 1989, only tapes if they were lucky. This brief history which I could read in English is only a small introduction to what this book covers in large detail. It really gives us Westerners an appreciation for just how difficult it was to be punk in Eastern Europe and just how much things have changed. I think this book is invaluable to have for any punk interested in the international scene, even if you can not read most of it, it still serves as a crucial document to a place and time of developing punk rock that is really amazing. (-Chris)

HELL FIRE FOR FUCKER #1 (\$1ppd/605 E Lambright St/Tampa, FL 33604/dis_bones_attack@hotmail.com) Debut issue featuring Japanese thrash demo reviews, additional reviews of current D-Beat bands, pictures of Deathside, and a re-printed Carcass interview. You probably already know whether you'd want to pick this up or not. For D-Beat thrashers/international h.c. lovers only. Layout is pretty much what you'd expect. Like a cover of a D-Beat album. He could have packed in a lot more writing in this rag, there's too much empty space staring back at the reader. Good for what it is. (-Andy)

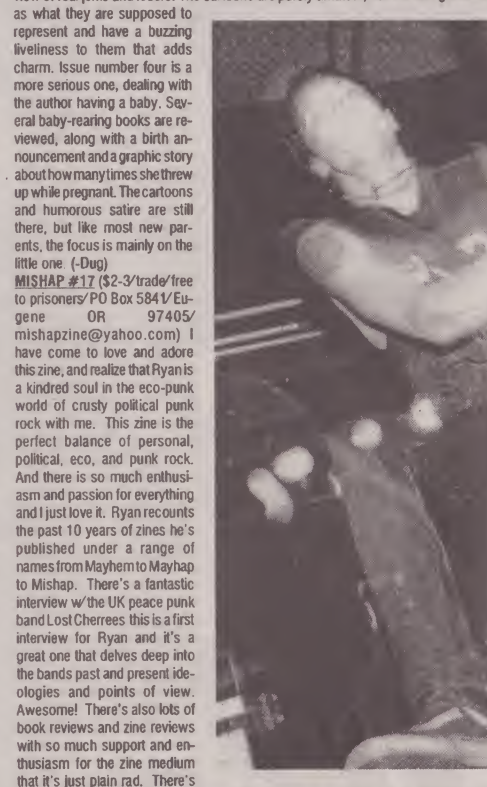
IMPACT PRESS #51 (\$2ppd/10151 University Blvd./Orlando, FL 32817) I'd give this to my parents, if they were actually liberals, so they wouldn't think all we punks do is have funny hair, listen to loud music, and have nihilistic rebellious phases. Anyway, inside: notes on free speech, Jim Hightower short bits, a surprisingly good column, "This War and Racism", by Norman Solomon, buying a brownie from Al Franken; articles on proposed new coal-burning power plants. Trash incinerators, and the 60's b-days of the motherfuckin IMF and World Bank. Also, looks at animal rights activists, and record reviews that are very informative—I had no idea there was this much crappy punk/indie music out there! Overall, journalistic, progressive periodical that has some worthwhile stuff, but, this anarchists wonders what could be if people put the time, energy, and money spent on stuff like this (one full page reads "Shit's Fucked Up—Vote Nov. 2nd"), into local projects. The best thing about this was the ad for "Vegporn.com". Man, I been wondering: Is watching two meat eaters screw actually vegan? Now I don't have to worry, what a relief! (Ryan Mishap)

IN TILL STUMPS #3 (\$2ppd/Neil Bramley PO Box 5817/West End QLD/4101 Australia/hardwareyouth@yahoo.com) This comes to you out of Australia. I really wasn't expecting much; due to the boring, now standard, layout of most music oriented zines these days. I'm not familiar with any of the bands that got interviewed: the Plague, Love Like Electrocutation, AIDS, Against, but was engaged anyways, due to the well thought out questions and the author's ability to get the interviewee to give lengthy answers. Also a D.I.Y. "guide" for the Aussie punx, and some quality columns. The overall feel to this is excellent, with a political undertone throughout. Recommended. (-Andy)

INTO THE VOID #2 Free 16 pgs 1/2 size. (Not A Puppel/16 W. 58th Ave N/Duluth, MN 55807) A little project to keep a photography student punk rocker busy and productive. The photos document isolation and urban desolation and decay, although they probably lose some of their impact when filtered through the photocopy. There are four pages of reviews of crusty punk records, so crusty in fact that Wisconsin is called Disconsin and America is, of course, Amerikkka. There are some vegan recipes including one for a pretty smoking Pad Thai, an essay opining that the only true modern art is illegal in some way, and some photos of punk bands like Asschapel and Drop Dead. Did I mention that it's free? Good. (-Dug)

KEEP LOVING, KEEP FIGHTING #3 (\$2/Hope/71 Hackleboro Rd/Canterbury, NH 03224) A collection of life stories from many contributors around the country...all sort of done in the theme of how we'll overcome the trials and tribulations set in our paths. An interesting and enjoyable collection of punk writing and artwork. (-karoline)

Cutlass and other rad projects. There's an "In Memory" for his Uncle Joe, a neat little imagined "play" between him and a psychiatrist, and more. I will almost always recommend prisoner's zines, so there ya go. My only issue with these is the "Passionate Hatred" piece in #4. I am uneasy with vague rants wishing suffering and death to the "fucking bitch" who "betrayed" him—this is loose-cannon, macho bitterness that doesn't resemble the rest of what Chadd shares. (Ryan Mishap)
LIFE DURING WARTIME #6 - THE TROUBLES CD/CASSETTE: This hour long audio documentary comes on CD or cassette format. It covers the March 2001 arrest of 3 people at a party in Portland at the hands of the "Joint Terrorism Task Force". Many of you have probably heard through the grapevine or literature about this incident, but this lays it all out on the table for you. Through interviews featuring the arrestees and friends and witnesses, you learn about the actual incident, arrest, jail horrors and trial and harassment, and organizing done by the kids to combat this injustice. Very pro sounding with music snippets throughout. Also, contains a booklet re-counting the story, along with additional anecdotes, observations, and opinions. I HIGHLY recommend this to everyone. This will (hopefully) bring about an array of emotions to the listener and give us more motivations to get organized in these draconian times. Order!!! (\$3/Erin Yanke/PO Box 1113/Portland, OR 97207) (-Andy)
MISFIT #3 & #4 each. \$3 pgs, 8 1/2 x 7. (Hannah Eye/105 Wilkin St. #2/St. Paul, MN 55102) "Misfit" is described by the creator as "a personal zine- humor/satire, including creative nonfiction and cartoons." It sure is. Issue #3 made me laugh quite a few times. Subtitled "The Shallow Depression Issue," there are stories about revenge on an older sister, lists of the authors most-hated words and people who can kiss her ass, and things to be depressed about. The satirical writings remind me of the columnists from The Onion newspaper, written unashamedly from the point of view of real jerks and losers. The cartoons are purely amateur, but are recognizable as what they are supposed to represent and have a buzzing liveliness to them that adds charm. Issue number four is a more serious one, dealing with the author having a baby. Several baby-rearing books are reviewed, along with a birth announcement and a graphic story about how many times she threw up while pregnant. The cartoons and humorous satire are still there, but like most new parents, the focus is mainly on the little one. (-Dug)
MISHAP #17 (\$2-3/trade/free to prisoners/PO Box 5841/Eugene OR 97405/mishapzine@yahoo.com) I have come to love and adore this zine, and realize that Ryan is a kindred soul in the eco-punk world of crusty political punk rock with me. This zine is the perfect balance of personal, political, eco, and punk rock. And there is so much enthusiasm and passion for everything and I just love it. Ryan recounts the past 10 years of zines he's published under a range of names from Mayhem to Mayhap to Mishap. There's a fantastic interview w/ the UK peace punk band Lost Cherees this is a first interview for Ryan and it's a great one that delves deep into the bands past and present ideologies and points of view. Awesome! There's also lots of book reviews and zine reviews with so much support and enthusiasm for the zine medium that it's just plain rad. There's



also a short story about a bike accident (Ryan is a great writer!), and a true story about gambling in Reno, and plenty of ideological thought on anarchism and applying it to real life and a sustained future. This is a great zine - well rounded and rad. (-Chris)
MORRID CURIOSITY #8 (\$6 U.S. \$10 World/ Loren Rhoads/PO Box 12308/San Francisco, CA 94112-0308/morrid@channel) This is a thick glossy covered, bar code embossed publication. Anyways, from the cover of this you'll probably know if you're into it or not. Picture of a skeleton with the content listing "Blood drinking, Bus Accidents, Grave Robbing, Stalkers, Suicide, etc." You get the gist. With a different author for every article the quality of writing differs. Although overall I would rate the contributors to be of above average quality: to great, with a few duds thrown in here and there. This is not just a "gross out" or "gore" magazine. Features articles about an author's dealing with breast cancer, and a woman dealing with a shitty acid casualty boyfriend and her escape from it. This is definitely for you sick fuck's out there, but with a little heart to it. A black diseased heart, but a heart nonetheless. What

in a comic format. Her drawings are top notch, the stories told are a great mix of seriousness and lightheartness, politics and drunkenness and it's just plain awesome all around. Isy also does a small zine distro - so not only should you order this zine, I promise you won't be disappointed, but you should also check out some of the other zines she distros. (-Chris)

NEGRITA #4 (\$1/Overground Distro/PO Box 166/Pensacola, FL 32591) Drawings and handwritten text straight outta Pensacola. This issue is subtitled "Abortion Etiquette, take care of your friends". Glo presents a guide/discussion on methods to support a friend having an abortion as a way to mark the 2 years gone by since she herself dealt with terminating a pregnancy. Well thought out, and in the bigger picture this is also a sort of guide to being a caring friend in general, abortion or not. Short and bittersweet, with tons of Glo's distinct art work this is a great reference and a necessary part of any zine library. Order one, you never know when it might come in really handy. (-karoline)

OFF-LINE #28 (Free/Donations/35 Barker Ave. #4G/White Plains, NY 10601) Teachers Claire and Vincent collaborate on this zine dedicated to "real stories...found in real life—by living." This ish contains the experiences of Vincent and others participating in a Memorial Day parade with anti-war/anti-violence messages; Claire's attempts to teach/help kids understand Hiroshima/Nagasaki, complicity, and to look at reality and make decisions; Vincent discusses Iraq and more in "Burning Thoughts on Violence" and talks about two talks by Zinn and Chomsky. There are vegan recipes, letters with responses, and re-prints of reviews of O-L with a corresponding review of the reviewing publication (I think that's weird, sure.). O-L gets kudos for being free, usually containing something interesting, and attempting to create a forum for discussion. Personally, I don't enjoy the tone of the writing. Maybe like Vincent seems a little too over-confident in the rightness of his views?

(Ryan Mishap)
PANCAKE JOE #1 & 2 \$0.50 each. 8pgs 1/4 size. (Ghoulstomper/ 4728 Monaco/Toledo, OH 43623) The great thing about mini-comics is that anyone can put one together and publish it. The tragic thing is that I have to review them. The "stories" in these two comics revolve around an angry punker named Pancake Joe, who's catchphrase is: "aw bitch" and can make his body as flat as a pancake, and Drop-Pants Murphy, who takes off his pants and has a boner. In Issue #1, good ole Pancake tries to rob a jewelry store with sad results. In issue #2, Pancake and Drop-Pants discuss the etymology of the words "brown" and "dick." The cartoons themselves are very lineal and, at best, competently done for the most part, like a Cathy or Hagar comic strip, not outstanding, but by no means bad. (-Dug)

RAD PARTY #34 1/2 (Small Budget Prod./BP No 07/78110 Les Veisnet Cedex/France / smallbudgetproductions@minitel.net) This is a great zine outta France, usually all in French. Stephane does great artwork in a comic style and he's got great handwriting. This is a mini issue that was a New Years Eve card of sorts. Most

of it's in French, but the English part is about discovering zines and punk rock. Hopefully a couple of the other French issues will be reviewed by my French reading pals. If you read French, you should get a copy of this little zine (any issue) and check it out. (-Chris)

REVOLUTIONTHRASH #1 (Free-send postage/ 100 Beacon St./Room A-716/Boston, MA 02116/revolutionthrash@yahoo.com) 1st issue out of Boston. Standard punk rock zine with a focus on international h.c. bands. I enjoyed the interview with Mass Separation immensely—a band with something of interest to say. Pretty novel concept these days. Refreshing! Also interviews with My Revenge, Opus Dead, and Dislike. A few contributors chip in some columns as well, which I could have done without, as well as a brief scene report of Peru. Editor is very interested in tape trading, so if you like heavy international punk/h.c., you should get in touch. (-Andy)

SKYSCRAPER #16 spring 2004 (\$4.99 cover price/PO Box 4432/Boulder CO 80306 -www.skyscrapermagazine.com-) This is a massive publication - 175 pages thick in a softcover bound book full of long format. For the most part this covers

There's a ton of album reviews, with special focus on reissues and some live reviews. I found the article on the election interesting as it traced the history of punks to politics in the Reagan years and what has changed, intensified or turned apathetic since, as well as generally looking at the current political climate and options. While most of this isn't for me, it's a good size mag and you get a lot for you \$ and if I didn't get to flip through this I'd probably be bummed. (-Chris)

SLACKERS AND LAYABOUTS spring 04 (Richard Cane/ Hang #4/ 3011 66/ Rotterdam/The Netherlands) I've been printing a bunch of Richard's artwork in recent issues of S&L - he does awesome stuff - and this is his zine full of his great artwork and illustrations. They are drawings of punks and squatters with an eco-wood gnome fantasy slant. This collection in particular has a real pagan earth worshipping slant with drawings of punks worshipping the sun and solstices and celebrating pagan holidays, singing Amex songs and teaching you some basic info about the moon cycles and how to get down with it all. This is fucking rad and so up my alley, it hurts. There are a bunch of drawings in her that I hope to print in future issues of S&L, but in the meantime - check this out on your own. Richard is one of the best punk artists that I know! I love this stuff!!! (-Chris)

SLINGSHOT #81/82 (\$2/c/o Long Hau/3124 Shattuck Ave/Berkeley CA 94705/www.tao.ca/slingshot) This long running Berkeley radical tabloid newspaper keeps the issues coming quarterly and is widely distributed in the Bay Area for free and if you pre-order issues to receive via bulk mail you can get them for \$1 instead of 2. Or order a handful of them for a donation. Collectively realized this paper always covers a diverse amount of topical issues that spread from local to global horizons. In the spring issue there is info on actions in the planning stages for G8 summit, political prisoner solidarity and the Republican National convention. There are articles on midwifery and gay marriage, new info shops across the country and globe, street performance and busking, radical relationships and gender ideology, health care, and loads more. The summer issue looks at local police forces, mental illness, the draft, voting, gas prices, infoshop updates, a huge planning spread for the RNC in NYC, the tortured prisoners in Iraq, herbal abortions, anarchist voting, and of course plenty more. I love the diversity of the contents included and that it doesn't slant too much into any one direction, which means you always find something of interest in these pages both of informative updates on actions and happenings and well as informative info on DIY topics and ideological ideas to inspire or debate. Worthy of support always. (-Chris)

SONGS ABOUT GHOSTS #2 (Jasmine Dreame Wagner/252 Norman Ave #203/Brooklyn NY 11222) The second issue is quite different from the first, it's smaller (1/4 size) and has a much different feeling and look, but the writing is still awesome. Jasmine reflects on a friend from summer camp years and years ago who she collaborated with, and then lost touch with. As she's going through journals and moments at her parents house, she gets to thinking about this lost friend, and writes to him. A year almost to the date later, she gets a letter to find out her friend has died. This is a well written and thoughtful zine on friendship and loss, momentary connections and loneliness. It's powerful in a subtle and yet straightforward way, and it's intense in a roundabout impactful way that delivers the punch without you quite realizing it. (-Chris)

STATUS #22 (free or \$2ppd/www.statusinc.com) It's pretty cool that this glossy covered mag is now distributed free. You can get a listing of places where it is available for free, or if you go on line you can get a mailing address to order it. I think it's odd that it's not mailing address printed. Anyway, in general this mag covers stuff that I'm not that interested in, but the format is nice with emphasis given to each band's interview w/ a full page photo of them prior to the interview and the layout and design is all quite nice looking. The interviews are split up by lots of half page and full page ads. And there are music reviews as well. The bands interviewed are The Lost and Found, Planes Mistaken for Stars, Gameface, Homage to Catalonia, Lagwagon, Bullet Train to Vegas and Sleep Comes Down. What I was interested in was the interview w/ Ian Mackaye about his current music project, new label project and living in DC proper again. I have found that the man does the most interesting interviews and I always enjoy reading what he has to say, even though I'm not a "big fan" persay. That interview alone made this worth having in my hands. And it's a great mag for the format, esp. if you're into the musical coverage. (-Chris)

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FROM ASHES RISE IN DC 5/16/04

but since it's all in Czech and I can't read a word of it and can only tell you what it looks like, and it looks fucking awesome, this review is in the zine section. This is a book of the history of the Czech punk scene. It's a proper bound book, about 3/4 inch thick, put together well with loads of photos and well it's awesome. There is an English summary in the back which explains the political climate of Czechoslovakia in the '70s, when it was under communist rule and extreme censorship. Needless to say this meant that punks and punk music was completely underground as well as extremely isolated. The hostile environment of police repression still managed to produce a unique and strong punk movement. This book explains the times and the various strains of punk that developed in the '70s and through the 80s with an ever changing political climate that even when accepting was still completely intolerant to the non-conformist outspoken nature of punk rock. We get a history of the bands chronicled with the ever growing changes with the times, that which was somewhat tolerated and that which remained totally radical. There were no punk records before 1989, only tapes if they were lucky. This brief history which I could read in English is only a small introduction to what this book covers in large detail. It really gives us Westerners an appreciation for just how difficult it was to be punk in Eastern Europe and just how much things have changed. I think this book is invaluable to have for any punk interested in the international scene, even if you can not read most of it, it still serves as a crucial document to a place and time of developing punk rock that is really amazing. (-Chris)

HELL FIRE FOR FUCKER #1 (\$1ppd/605 E Lambright St/Tampa, FL 33604/dis_bones_attack@hotmail.com) Debut issue featuring Japanese thrash demo reviews, additional reviews of current D-Beat bands, pictures of Deathside, and a re-printed Carcass interview. You probably already know whether you'd want to pick this up or not. For D-Beat/thrash/crust/International h.c. lovers only. Layout is pretty much what you'd expect. Like a cover of a D-Beat album. He could have packed in a lot more writing in this rag, there's too much empty space staring back at the reader. Good for what it is. (-Andy)

IMPACT PRESS #51 (\$2ppd/10151 University Blvd/Orlando, FL 32817) I'd give this to my parents, if they were actually liberals, so they wouldn't think all we punks do is have funny hair, listen to loud music, and have nihilistic rebellious phases. Anyway, inside: notes on free speech, Jim Hightower short bits, a surprisingly good column, "This War and Racism," by Norman Solomon, buying a brownie from Al Franken, articles on proposed new coal-burning power plants, trash incinerators, and the 60th b-days of the motherfucking IMF and World Bank. Also, looks at animal rights activists, and record reviews that are very informative—I had no idea there was this much crappy punk/indie music out there! Overall, journalistic, progressive periodical that has some worthwhile stuff, but, this anarchists wonders what could be if people put the time, energy, and money spent on stuff like this (one full page reads "Shit's Fucked Up—Vote Nov. 2nd"), into local projects. The best thing about this was the ad for "Vegporn.com". Man, I been wondering: is watching two meat eaters screw actually vegan? Now I don't have to worry, what a relief! (Ryan Mishap)

IN TILL STUMPS #3 (\$2ppd/Neil Bramley PO Box 58171 West End QLD/4101 Australia/hardwareyouth@yahoo.com) This comes to you out of Australia. I really wasn't expecting much; due to the boring, now standard, layout of most music oriented zines these days. I'm not familiar with any of the bands that got interviewed; the Plague, Love Like Electrocution, AIDS, Against, but was engaged anyways, due to the well thought out questions and the author's ability to get the interviewee to give lengthy answers. Also a D.I.Y. "guide" for the Aussie punx, and some quality columns. The overall feel to this is excellent, with a political undertone throughout. Recommended. (-Andy)

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story, along with additional anecdotes, observations, and opinions. I HIGHLY recommend this to everyone. This will (hopefully) bring about an array of emotions to the listener and give us more motivations to get organized in these draconian times. Order it!! (\$3/Erin Yanke/PO Box 1113/Portland, OR 97207) (-Andy)

MISFIT #3 & 4 each. 32 pgs, 8 1/2 x 7. (Hannah Eye/105 Wilkin St./2/St. Paul, MN 55102) "Misfit" is described by the creator as "a personal zine—humor/satire, including creative nonfiction and cartoons." It sure is. Issue #3 made me laugh quite a few times. Subtitled "The Shallow Depression Issue," there are stories about revenge on an older sister, lists of the authors most-hated words and people who can kiss her ass, and things to be depressed about. The satirical writings remind me of the columnists from *The Onion* newspaper, written unashamedly from the point of view of real jerks and losers. The cartoons are purely amateur, but are recognizable as what they are supposed to represent and have a buzzing liveliness to them that adds charm. Issue number four is a more serious one, dealing with the author having a baby. Several baby-rearing books are reviewed, along with a birth announcement and a graphic story about how many times she threw up while pregnant. The cartoons and humorous satire are still there, but like most new parents, the focus is mainly on the little one. (-Dug)

MISHAP #17 (\$2-3/trade/free to prisoners/PO Box 5841/Eugene OR 97405/mishapzine@yahoo.com) I have come to love and adore this zine, and realize that Ryan is a kindred soul in the eco-punk world of crusty political punk rock with me. This zine is the perfect balance of personal, political, eco, and punk rock. And there is so much enthusiasm and passion for everything and I just love it. Ryan recounts the past 10 years of zines he's published under a range of names from Mayhem to Mayhap to Mishap. There's a fantastic interview w/ the UK peace punk band Lost Cherees this is a first interview for Ryan and it's a great one that delves deep into the bands past and present ideologies and points of view. Awesome! There's also lots of book reviews and zine reviews with so much support and enthusiasm for the zine medium that it's just plain rad. There's also a short story about a bike accident (Ryan is a great writer!), and a true story about gambling in Reno, and plenty of ideological thought on anarchism and applying it to real life and a sustained future. This is a great zine - well rounded and rad. (-Chris)

MORBID CURIOSITY #8 (\$6 U.S. \$10 World/ Loren Rhoads/PO Box 12308/San Francisco, CA 94112-0308/morbid@charnel) This is a thick glossy covered, bar code emblazoned publication. Anyways, from the cover of this you'll probably know if you're into it or not. Picture of a skeleton with the content listing "Blood drinking, Bus Accidents, Grave Robbing, Stalkers, Suicide, etc. etc." You get the gist. With a different author for every article the quality of writing differs. Although overall I would rate the contributors to be of above average quality, to treat, with a few duds thrown in here and there. This is not just a "gross out" or "gore" magazine. Features articles about an author's dealing with breast cancer, and a woman dealing with a shitty acid casualty boyfriend and her escape from it. This is definitely for you sick fuck's out there, but with a little heart to it. A black diseased heart, but a heart nonetheless. What the fuck am I talking about? You probably know if you'd dig this or not, so I'll shut up now. (-Andy)

MORGENMUFFEL #12 April 04 (\$2-3/PO Box 74/ Brighton BN1 4ZQ UK/katchoo63@yahoo.co.uk) This is an awesome zine of comics and autobiographical stories from Isy and it's one of the best looking zines around. It's one of those narratives in pictures that tell about her life at the collective coop cafe/bar/club social center they work at (and own), the collective housing project, temp work jobs at a mailorder co and the post office, drunken stories, a bad case of eczema and yeast infections, as well as info on political prisoners, exiles and book reviews—all done

OFF-LINE #28 (Free/Donations/35 Barker Ave. #40/White Plains, NY 10601) Teachers Claire and Vincent collaborate on this zine dedicated to "real stories...found in real life—by living." This ish contains the experiences of Vincent and others participating in a Memorial Day parade with anti-war/hon-violence messages; Claire's attempts to teach/help kids understand Hiroshima/Nagasaki, complicity, and to look at reality and make decisions; Vincent discusses Iraq and more in "Burning Thoughts on Violence" and talks about two talks by Zinn and Chomsky. There are vegan recipes, letters with responses, and re-prints of reviews of O-L with a corresponding review of the reviewing publication (I think that's weird, sure). O-L gets kudos for being free, usually containing something interesting, and attempting to create a forum for discussion. Personally, I don't enjoy the tone of the writing. Maybe like Vincent seems a little too over-confident in the rightness of his views?

(Ryan Mishap)

PANCAKE JOE #1 & 2 \$0.50 each. 8pgs 1/4 size. (Ghoulstomper/4728 Monac/Toledo, OH 43623) The great thing about mini-comics is that anyone can put one together and publish it. The tragic thing is that I have to review them. The "stories" in these two comics revolve around an angry punker named Pancake Joe, who's catchphrase is: "aw bitch!" and can make his body as flat as a pancake, and Drop-Pants Murphy, who takes off his pants and has a boner. In issue #1, good ole Pancake tries to rob a jewelry store with sad results. In issue #2, Pancake and Drop-Pants discuss the etymology of the words "brown" and "dick." The cartoons themselves are very lineal and, at best, competently done for the most part, like a Cathy or Hagar comic strip, not outstanding, but by no means bad. (-Dug)

RAD PARTY #34 1/2 (Small Budget Prod./BP No 07/78110 Les Veisnet Cedex/France / smallbudge productions@minitel.net) This is a great zine outta France, usually all in French. Stephane does great artwork in a comic style and he's got great handwriting. This is a mini issue that was a New Years Eve card of sorts. Most

of it's in French, but the English part is about discovering zines and punk rock. Hopefully a couple of the other French issues will be reviewed by my French reading pals. If you read French, you should get a copy of this little zine (any issue) and check it out. (-Chris)

REVOLUTIONTHRASH #1 (Free-send postage/100 Beacon St./Room A-716/Boston, MA 02116/revolutionthrash@yahoo.com) 1st issue out of Boston. Standard punk rock zine with a focus on international h.c. bands. I enjoyed the interview with Mass Separation immediately—a band with something of interest to say. Pretty novel concept these days. Refreshing! Also interviews with My Revenge, Opus Dead, and Dislike. A few contributors crop in some columns as well, which I could have done without, as well as a brief scene report of Peru. Editor is very interested in tape trading, so if you like heavy international punk/h.c., you should get in touch. (-Andy)

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SLINGSHOT #81/82 (\$2/cb Long Hau/3124 Shattuck Ave/Berkeley CA 94705/www.tao.ca/slinsshot) This long running Berkeley radical tabloid newspaper keeps the issues coming quarterly and is widely distributed in the Bay Area for free and if you pre-order issues to receive via bulk mail you can get them for \$1 instead of 2. Or order a handful of them for a donation. Collectively realized this paper always covers a diverse amount of topical issues that spread from local to global horizons. In the spring issue there is info on actions in the planning stages for G8 summit, political prisoner solidarity and the Republication National convention. There are articles on midwifery and gay marriage, new info shops across the country and globe, street performance and busking, radical relationships and gender ideology, health care, and loads more. The summer issue looks at local police forces, mental illness, the draft, voting, gas prices, infoshop updates, a huge planning spread for the RNC in NYC, the tortured prisoners in Iraq, herbal abortions, anarchist voting, and of course plenty more. I love the diversity of the contents included and that it doesn't slant too much into any one direction, which means you always find something of interest in these pages both of informative updates on actions and happenings and well as informative info on DIY topics and ideological ideas to inspire or debate. Worthy of support always. (-Chris)

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(Virus 320)

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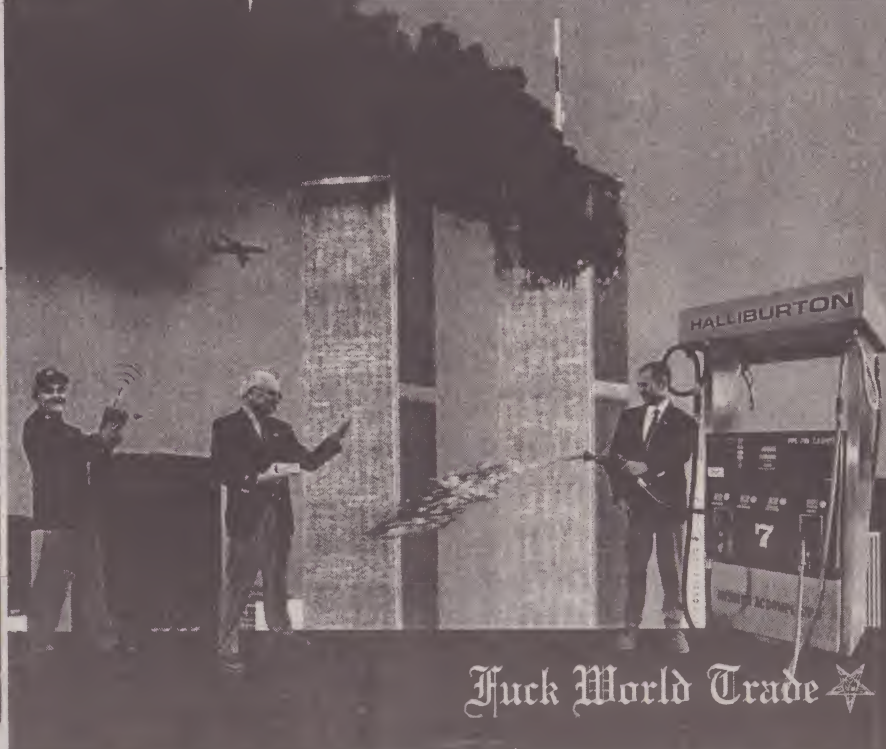
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www.alternativetentacles.com
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I think you should get these right now because not only are they good zines, but the voices of people in prison, women especially, are under-represented in our society. I love to hear people's stories and thoughts and such sharing can shatter so many barriers—and, shit, those prison walls are fucking huge, but we can get past them. #6 is 34 pages and has pieces on the toilets backing up at an Oregon prison and those in charge doing little to alleviate the problem, personal bits, a heartbreaking tale of a woman's experience of domestic violence and now her daughter is in prison for killing her abuser, more info on DV, discrimination against women in Oregon prisons, and more. #7 is 20 pages and includes info about educational programs in one prison and how important they are, the experiences of a lesbian when her partner visits, lack of medical care, and more. Thanks to V. Law for compiling this and I hope to see more. (Ryan Mishap)

THE EAST VILLAGE INKY #23 (\$2/ Ayun Haliday/ PO Box 22754/ Brooklyn NY 11202/www.ayunhaliday.com) Ayun is just as off the wall as every, and perhaps even more amped on adrenaline after a week in Japan w/ husband Greg, while the kids stayed home in NYC w/ grandma. Though the kids still make prime appearances in most all the stories. I think one of my favorites was reading about the electric toilet with many button options for washes and music accommodations. We learn about special Hello Kitty souvenirs from Japanese tourist spots, the baths and spas, the food, the customs and the questions everyone asked. This issue seems more manic than usual, but it still follows the off the wall life of Ayun, her kids, and playwright husband, hand-written and illustrated. Always a treat. (-Chris)

THE GOBLIN (\$3ppd US/\$4ppd world/PO Box 12044/Eugene OR 97440) This is the latest from Sean Goblin and it's a gem. Nice little square sized format, with great artwork illos and well put together, of course. The first half of this is a thoughtful reflection on Sean's life of punk rock in Oakland full of critical observations and thoughts. While many of us have read this sort of thing before, and it's usually either lined with nostalgic "things were so good then", or "how dumb I was and now I know better" attitudes, this more of a criticism of the good and bad angles, which includes criticism of himself. It is so well written and honestly seen, that it is really one of the best critiques of this sort that I have read; the sort that kids in college writing their thesis' on punk rock which they could have written. And while Sean is cynical and critical, and tears into trends, people and the times by calling a spade a spade—there is still a refreshing level of upbeat positivity, or should I say hopefulness of seeing beyond the trappings of the trends, culture and commodification of both punk, liberalism and the East Bay. Sean's been known to spout shit and then change, but this is something for everyone to chew on and I doubt he'll be retracting any of it. Cause at the end of the day he's come round to accepting what he loves about punk while also trying to challenge it and pull it forward in a hopefully and positive collective direction. This is full of truths, even of the sort some would not like to admit, and while it remains he's experience and opinion alone, it's a great reflection on how to critique and rise above, and grow beyond the boundaries and limitations that are often self-imposed. Moving beyond that manifesto, Sean writes about political artist George Grosz, the influence of role playing games on punk and art and himself, as well as many other bits of inspiration. He also recounts his attempt at organizing a US Chaos Days, inspired by the German Chaos Days, talking about what it meant then and reflecting on the good and bad that came out of it. Sean Goblin is still dreaming of a collective of eco-punks in the woods, but that vision is taking on a more practical and real angle these days, and this zine while it is more about reflecting on the past, is also a launching point to the future. Awesome and recommended to all!! (-Chris)

THE MIAMI MODEL "A Guide to the events surrounding the FTAA Ministerial in Miami Nov.20-21, 2003" (\$7 Try 2+\$Potassium1056 60° St./Oakland, CA 94608) This 1/2 sized, 56 page zine kicks-ass. Every major protest should have one of these after the tear gas dissipates. Inside, you get an accessible explanation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas proposal and why it is bad for us all ("The U.S. is like the cockroach of free trade. It just won't go away."), a timeline of events compiled from Indymedia accounts, a critique of the media coverage and police propaganda/actions (the so-called "miami model"), and personal accounts from several protesters. Gets at why people were there in the streets, what happened, and how brutal the cop response was. Recommended. (Ryan Mishap)

THE POSITIVE VEGAN #3 (free/tree/ send postage) Bridge/ 47 Chaucer St/ Moonsee Ponds/Melbourne/ Vic Australia 3039) This is a vegan cookzine inspired by fall and winter recipes cause you know, the Southern Hemisphere has the opposite seasons as us here in the North. There are some yummy sounding things here - samosas, polenta bread, seitan wheat meat, spinach pie, stuffed potatoes, gnocchi, chai cake, steamed almond pudding. I swear everything in here sounds amazing. There are also a few full color photos added in the center to entice you even more. I think every vegan cookzine is worth having. (-Chris)

THE PUTANGINA MO #1 (Postage/Jay Garcia/Cluster-M/Lot-72 Bagong Nasyon 1, Antipolo City 1870, Philippines) I have no idea what the title of this means, maybe you do? Two page, back and front deal from the Philippines, written in English. An interview with Croatian band Lasting Values on one page and an interview with the author of "The Way of the Warrior" zine. Leaving me not much to comment on here. I was hoping to learn more about the Philippine scene, but perhaps in the next issue? (-Andy) Issue #2 just arrived, and it has an int'l w/ French band Organ Grinder, and Akupunkura zine from Serbia. There's a bit about life in the Philippines, and that is about it on these 4 pages. (-Chris)

TONES & NOTES #1 (\$PO Box 190/Philomath OR 97370) From the folks at Dwelling Portably, who recently published "Chord Easy", comes the latest - Tones & Notes which is about making your own music in a classical sense - compelling,

stories about trying to break out of a rut of a routine by simply riding his bike to the market early in the day, recounting when he was attacked and the confusion, anger and despair he felt, views from the window of the train, the frustration of people just not caring about anyone or anything, and then some positive things that he's been doing lately. There are also contributions from two of my favorite zine artists - Merry Death - a piece about birth control, and Colin Matthes has a piece (beautiful!) about factory farmed cows and the workers on strike. All in all this is a tight issue with great artwork that is full of emotion which leaves a strong impact. On one hand it's dark and sad, representing the world around us, but there is also hope and positivity found as Eric focuses on that which is good and makes him happy. An awesome issue! (-Chris)

UNHEALED OBSESSION #2 (60 cents??/ Rob/ Clohamon Park/ Bunclody/ Co. Wexford/Ireland/Robpunk@iol.ie) Quality interviews with Reagan SS, Ludica, and Communichaos Media. Rob posed good questions and everyone interviewed seemed to have something interesting to say - making for good interviews. A contributor speaks about atheism, and the author throws in a show review. Overall, a pretty good read. (-Andy)

URBAN HERMIT #18 (\$3ppd/PO Box 460412/SF CA 94146) Hermit apologized when he sent me this new zine, for adding to the pile, but little does he realize that this zine has been one of my long-standing favorites for years. I'm a bit confused with this issue though, cause I swear it's an old issue, but it was sent out as a new one. This is a thick issue that is a story about Hermit's first tour as a spoken word performer on the Primate Freedom Tour. She doesn't have a very good time, and is quite critical of everyone on this tour for the seeming bullshit and shallowness of almost all involved. Though I still think of this as the tour where Hermit really found himself. Anyway, this is a fucking great story and I loved it. I just swear that I've read it before. I totally recommend it, as it's among the best writing Hermit's done, whether old, redone, reprinted or revamped, it's a fucking hilarious story that what Hermit has always done best - criticize the social and punk goings on around him. (-Chris)



VOICES WAKE US/HAZARDOUS WASTE SPLIT ZINE (\$1/Ben Parker/5290 Lerner Hall/NYC, NY 10027/voiceswakeus@yahoo.com) H.W. side consists of photos of DSB, music reviews, and the top 8 best/worst Tear It Up show reviews. Only interesting if you're... like... totally into Tear It Up. Voices Wake Us side is not my favorite thing in the whole world, to say the least. If you're into know it all college kids now, I'm going to take a wild guess, just recently got into international h.c., and would now like to school us on what's good, in an authoritative, trying to be controversial manner, all the while complaining of the "hippy" politics of certain bands. Features a top 11 crossover albums (almost half of which, if you want to be a dick about it, aren't "crossover" albums). (-Andy)

WHAT'S UP BRA? #1&2 (\$3 each/ 3306 Lemp Ave./ St. Louis, MO 63118 <whatsupbra@hotmail.com>) I'm really torn on how to review the 2 issues of What's Up Bra? that I have sitting here on my desk. On the one hand, I want to love it because it is chock full of girls writing to empower themselves about being part of the notoriously testosterone fueled hardcore scene. There aren't really any ages mentioned, but I'm guessing that we're talking early 20's here. I think that I would've liked this zine if I were still that age... unfortunately at 34, I find it a little stale. I know that comes across as being ageist, but that's how I feel. Both issues feature nicely done covers, filled with black string. Cut and paste layout leaning toward the sloppy side. Both issues feature personal stories, feminist/queer positive writing and advertising, a crossword puzzle, vegan recipes, a few photos, book and music reviews. Issue #1 has short interviews with the singer of Walls of Jericho and the singer from Good Clean Fun. I've never been a fan of GCF and this brilliant (yeah, brilliant)

MUSIC REVIEWS

46 SHORT - JUST A LIABILITY CD This band's music plays a style of 80's hardcore punk from Southern California. They are snotty, fast paced, and angry. The lyrics are piss off and about how fucked up this world is. These guys are from some older bands but they play with a lot of energy and inspiration. (GO KAR! PO box 20/prince street station/NY NY 10012/www.gokartrecords.com) (European)

A PERFECT MURDER - UNBROKEN CD Sometimes I really love to just settle into one of these super produced metallic hardcore bands, and A Perfect Murder are that. With super punchy, tough and heavy crunching guitars, that can rock it at breakneck speed and then bust into a totally mosh-fest breakdown, while of course the drums keep up with the machine gun style delivery. Vocals are deep and guttural and tough keeping the hardcore tag strong. If you like your hardcore made for an exhibition mosh pit, then this is for you. This is metal as fuck, and minus the over the top guitar leads, I like this kind of shit, but I don't want to be at the shows, and it's been done and over done and I found myself losing interest part way through this my heart is just not in it, and I've heard it and felt it more before. (Victory) (-Chris)

A18 - DEAR FURIOUS CD A ex-member list that is longer than most kids even stay straight edge anymore, and a 13 guitar driven tracks of California hardcore. Rather bitter lyric-wise, but not in much of a bad way, since it goes along with the theme of the angry music it is on top of. Then again, this guy did sing for Khoros of disapproval, so what else should I have expected it??? Thank god they are not trying the cop-out "rock"-route that most older dudes have wasted their time doing in an attempt to show they have "grown up". My only "dislike" is that it is on Victory Records, but luckily no one-sheet made it into my hands, cuz I HATE 99% of the one-sheets I see... I let the music do the talking, not some marketed selling points which are written to convince me I should like something. (Victory Records, 346 N. Justice St, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60607) (Dave)

AGATHOCLES - ALIVE & MINCING CD Why does this exist? It seems like a fine live cassette recording, but why put it to CD? Especially when the accompanying packaging has little to no information... Really, I shouldn't even go much into how half-assed the layout and artwork are, just don't expect anything worthwhile. I like AGATHOCLES and this release is a disappointment. (Crimes Against Humanity / p.o. box 1421 / Eau Claire, WI/54702/USA) (-JAY)

AGE OF RUIN - THE TIDES OF TRAGEDY CD I was so excited to get a new release from this band who has been one of my favorite metal-hardcore bands for years now. But not so surprising to me, as they have totally merged into some new hardcore scene that I don't follow at all, they have also incorporated a new sound and style that I don't like near as much as the older straight forward metal style. Age of Ruin started as a Darkest Hour kind of band, playing fucking heavy as fuck crunchy metal with that Scandi-guitar lead style wovlen solid through their sound. They still deliver some of the best of the genre of metal hardcore working that guitar style, but they have also added this sing-songy melodic style of singing that just reminds me of MtV and the new rock radio station and new trends in popular heavy music, and it makes me want to yawn. They're still great at what they do, both the new and the old, they stand out. But personally I will have to stick with the older stuff that is straight up metal hardcore minus the sing-songy naseum. (Eulogy Recordings.com) (-Chris)

ALL OR NOTHING H.C. - WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU... CD There really just aren't that many hardcore or punk bands that have female singers, especially a bad ass tough one with a versatile voice like Renae. So what I really like about this So. Cal band is that they play a catchy mix of hardcore and punk that is catchy and solid and rocks and absolutely love Renae's vocals - she can sing and scream and yell and carry a tune and kick your ass all the same time. So this band is cool all around, cause

I like their punky hardcore style alone - a straight forward style that not all that many bands seem to remember, and then of course with Renae on vocals with smart lyrics of a political and personal nature dealing with issues and life and well this band is just rad all around. (On the Rag Records/PO Box 251/Norco CA 92860-0251) (-Chris)

ALTERCADO - EL RUIDO Y LA RABIA CD Excellent fast simple hardcore from Chile. When it's good, this reminds me a lot of SIN ORDEN, the teenage powerhouse that exploded out of Chicago's south side a few years ago, rapid fire, in your face punk rock, with vocals so manic they are almost shrieked rather than screamed. But ALTERCADO mix things up as well. "Vivir..." is an awesome slower song with clean guitars and a sound that brings to mind more rudimentary early 1980's Latin American punk bands, but other attempts to stray from the hardcore mold ("Almas Falladas", for example) are not as successful. Lyrics and explanations in español, so I can only imagine that the verum speeded is of a political nature. With songs like "Pnochet Muerto" and "Poder Judicial", I think that is a safe assumption. I totally solid release, worth your time and then some. (p11 #415, Capricornio, Graneros, VI region CHILE, reaccon56@latinmail.com) (-Robert)

ANODYNE - SALO CD Professional polished noisy metal influenced dirge, performed to near perfection. This band's been around for years now, and fans of KEELHAUL, CONVERGE, and the like, have no doubt already made their opinions. These seven songs are slightly more cacophonous than ANODYNE's previous efforts, which makes for a sometimes trying, but sometimes excellent listen. While was not sold through the first six tracks, their cover of HUSKER DU's "Beyond the Threshold" makes me want to find each member of this band and one at a time shove rusty pipes up their asses. I would like to see a new release from this band. (Black Hole 723, Brooklyn, NY 11203)

roots of NYC hardcore done to perfection. (Helibent/PO Box 1529/Pt Pleasant NJ 08742 <www.helibentrecords.com>) (-Chris)

APPARATUS - ANOTHER NIGHT OF HOLOCAUST CD Malaysian raw punk mangle in the tradition of early Swedish HC like MOB 47 & MODERAT LIKVADATION. The vocals are high pitched, and the guitar tone (fuzz) is as well. They hit the mark with everything they're trying to do, and this disc rages appropriately from start to finish. They've even included covers of MODERAT LIKVADATION, RAJOITUS and SHITLICKERS. PUNK, PUNK, D-TAKT PUNK. (Disarmament c/o Pat/No. 88 Blok 3 / Seksyen 16/40200 Shah Alam, Selangor/Malaysia) (-JAY)

ARTIMUS PYLE - FUCKED FROM BIRTH CD Artimus Pyle are the masters of heaviness. I wanted to say they were an experiment in heaviness, except that experiment implies weird, and they are anything but, because in fact they are successful in their plight to deliver incredibly pummeling hardcore that is a thick and heavy assault that hits hard and deep and the dark, deep and heavy tonation alone will throttle you. And it rocks. Seriously, these 3 dudes will knock you down with their pummeling assault of power with the kind of heavy tonation that hits you deep and hard in the chest and takes your breath away. And just when you get set on the slow and heavy groove, they freak out and blast into an assault of manic speed and thrashing power that will once again leave you breathless, as they relentlessly deliver the goods and firmly establish their sound and style on this full length as uniquely their own. Masters I tell you. This is the fucking shit! (Prank Records/PO Box 410892/SF CA 94141-0892) (-Chris) *****

ASS CHORD SERVICE - MASSAGE INCLUDED CD Ass Chord Service are "a bunch of older scenesters from Munster". They have been playing in "bands for at least more than ten years". They play "rocking, old school hardcore" that sounds like a mix between Bad Religion, All, and Fear. Doesn't sound "enough fresh" for my tastes. I love translated press releases, though. (Ass-Card Records, Annenstr. 5, 44137 Dortmund, Germany/www.asscardrecords.com) -TNT

ATOM AND HIS PACKAGE - HAIR DEBATABLE CD This is a live CD of Atom's last show which takes place at the Unitarian church in Philly. In case you don't know who Atom and His Package are, they are a one-man band that makes extremely danceable music with witty lyrics. I am rarely a fan of live recordings and this one is no exception. I think that it would have made a lot more sense to just release a best of with all the studio tracks on it cause seeing Atom and His Package is really all about the dance party. I feel like the live recording only takes away from the songs rather than adding anything. But for me the saving grace here is the DVD which has the last show and a couple of documentaries and even a very strange music video. I felt like being able to see the crowd actually helped the recording a bit and the video is really worth the price of the CD alone. (Hopeless Records/PO box 7495/Van Nuys, CA 91409-7495/www.hopelessrecords.com) (European)

BACKSTABBERS INC. - KAMIKAZE MISSIONS CD This is what I thought hardcore was supposed to evolve into. Nary a disappointing moment on this fiery disk. From Ashes Rise fans take note. These tracks smoke and give me hope for more bands to take up the lack of not being afraid to make their own music. Real music is where it's at for those who take charge and come up with new shit. Bad-ass lyrics ta' boot. Take heed and give 'em a twirl. (TRASH ART! Records/PO Box 725/Providence, RI 02901) (-Johnny)

BAD BUSINESS - S/T CD I think the thing I like most about this band is the abundance of bird artwork. They play a rockin' style of hardcore with emphasis on the rock. Moderate mid-paced and catchy, the vocals are harsh with a screamed raspy style. They've got some good chunky guitar parts and change up their tempos from dirgey to blistering, while keeping old school hardcore all the while, and busting out a good catchy rockin' beat. It's refreshing to hear the straight forward style, but I gotta admit I wasn't as enamored as I wanted to be. Guess the straight forward hardcore just doesn't grab me these days the way it does some. This is solid straight forward with old-school roots, pure and simple. (Grave Mistake Records/899 Kings Retreat Dr./Davidsonville MD 21035) (-Chris)

BAIL OUT - DEMO CASSETTE Youth crew breakdowns and thrashcore from kids in the nations capital. After the first song about detention, BAIL OUT offer a killer track about throwing eggs at people... you get the drift. The music is old school hardcore at it's finest, and I'm pretty into the juvenile nature of the songs (did I mention "Slate Assisted Deathbeat"? Send 'em your cash (\$4 ppd c/o bailout@yahoo.com) (-Robert)

BEHIND ENEMY LINES - THE GLOBAL CANNIBAL LP It's been a few issues now since I reviewed the CD version, and now this latest full-length from Pittsburgh's best political metal punk band is available on vinyl! And that means the artwork is bigger and it seems like there is even more of it in the huge booklet, most of which is in the form of hard hitting John Yates style political commentary poster collages that are crucial to the times of the current political climate and administration. Behind Enemy Lines, is one of the best bands going today. Everything about this is dead on, spine-chilling and earth shattering. They fucking rock and knock you dead with intense political lyrics at the same time. Epic and monumental, this record fucking shreds to perfection. Their sound is heavy and powerful beyond description with a thick distorted power and a wall of howling amps delivering metallic rage. They've come unto a masterful place here with layered vocals, and rhythmic weaving hooks that don't quit. Totally metal without compromising their undying punkness at all. The lyrics are epic and amazing detailed attacks on George and his government and politics, globalization, religion, choice, food, war and all the corrupt issues that plague the world. This is peace punk like you've never heard before. I love the way the vocals are all woven, layered and relentless to match the uncompromised attack of the wall of powered pummeling drums and guitar that weave hooks to get your skin

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TONES & NOTES #1 (\$/PO Box 190/Philomath OR 97370) From the folks at Dwelling Portably, who recently published "Chord Easy", comes the latest - Tones & Notes which is about making your own music in a classical sense—composing, arranging, noting, playing, etc. What I mean by classic sense is that this contains diagrams of chording, and considering that most of the musicians I know don't even know how to read music, this is like totally foreign territory for me. However, if you are interesting in discussions about writing music and maintaining DIY values while educating yourself about this subject, then that is the focus of this new publication. (-Chris)

TROUBLE IN MIND #6 (\$2ppd/Erik/PO Box 44254/Detroit MI 48244) This new issue is awesome and it looks fantastic with a letter press printed linocut looking cityscape print cover. Wow! This whole issue is illustrated with Erik's narrative

performer on the Prime Freedom Tour. She doesn't have a very good time, and is quite critical of everyone on this tour for the seeming bullshit and shallowness of almost all involved. Though I still think of this as the tour where Hermit really found himself. Anyway, this is a fucking great story and I loved it. I just swear that I've read it before. I totally recommend it, as it's among the best writing Hermit's done, whether old, redone, reprinted or revamped, it's a fucking hilarious story that what Hermit has always done best - criticize the social and punk goings on around him. (-Chris)



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WHAT'S UP BRA? #1&2 (\$3 each/ 3306 Lemp Ave./ St. Louis, MO 63118 <whatsupbra@hotmail.com>) I'm really, really torn on how to review the 2 issues of What's Up Bra?! that I have sitting here on my desk. On the one hand, I want to love it because it is chock full of girls writing to empower themselves about being part of the notoriously testosterone fueled hardcore scene. There aren't really any ages mentioned, but I'm guessing that we're talking early 20's here. I think that I would've liked this zine if I were still that age... unfortunately at age 34, I find it a little stale. I know that comes across as being ageist, but that's how I feel. Both issues feature nicely done covers, tied with black string. Cut and paste layout leaning toward the sloppy side. Both issues feature personal stories, feminist/queer positive writing and advertising, a crossword puzzle, vegan recipes, a few photos, book and music reviews. Issue #1 has short interviews with the singer of Walls of Jericho and the singer from Good Clean Fun. I've never been a fan of GCF and this brilliant (yeah, right) line from the singer certainly didn't change my mind one bit (in response to the question "how do you feel girls could make the scene more of their own?") "There is one simple answer to that question. Join bands. Key to everything. Women will never be equal in the scene without being a part of the music." What a crock of shit!!!! I'd fucking love it if there were more women playing in bands (any style of music) but there are a million ways to be an equal part of a music scene without being a musician. Whew, got a little worked up there. Issue #2 has interviews with the singer of Fed By Fiction and the singer of Chunks. I wanted to like these efforts, but in the end I just finished with a feeling of indifference. I would, however, be interested in seeing future issues. (-karoline)

else should I have expected it??? Thank god they are in an attempt to stop "rock" -route that oldest older dudes have wasted their time doing in an attempt to show they have "grown up". My only "dislike" is that it is on Victory Records, but luckily no one-sheet made it into my hands, cuz I HATE 99% of the one-sheets I see... I let the music do the talking, not some marketed selling points which are written to convince me I should like something. (Victory Records, 346 N. Justice St., Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60607) (Dave) **AGATHOCLES - ALIVE & MINCING CD** Why does this exist? It seems like a fine line cassette recording, but why put it to CD? Especially when the accompanying packaging has little to no information... Really, I shouldn't even go much into how half-assed the layout and artwork are, just don't expect anything worthwhile. I like AGATHOCLES and this release is a disappointment. (Crimes Against Humanity / p.o. box 1421 / Eau Claire, WI/54702/USA) (-JAY)

AGE OF RUIN - THE TIDES OF TRAGEDY CD I was so excited to get a new release from this band who has been one of my favorite metal-hardcore bands for years now. But not so surprising to me, as they have totally merged into some new hardcore scene that I don't follow at all, they have also incorporated a new sound and style that I don't like near as much as the older straight forward metal style. Age of Ruin started as a Darkest Hour kind of band, playing fucking heavy as fuck crunchy metal with that Scandi-guitar lead style woven solid through their sound. They still deliver some of the best of the genre of metal hardcore working that guitar style, but they have also added this sing-songy melodic style of singing that just reminds me of Mtv and the new rock radio station and new trends in popular heavy music, and it makes me want to yack. They're still great at what they do, both the new and the old, they stand out. But personally I will have to stick with the older stuff that is straight up metal hardcore minus the sing-songy naseum. (Eulogy Recordings.com) (-Chris)

ALL OR NOTHING H.C. - WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU... CD There really just aren't that many hardcore or punk bands that have female singers, especially a bad ass tough one with a versatile voice like Renae. So what I really like about this So. Cal band is that they play a catchy mix of hardcore and punk that is catchy and solid and rocks and I absolutely love Renae's vocals - she can sing and scream and yell and carry a tune and kick your ass at the same time. So this band is cool all around, cause

I like their punky hardcore style alone - a straight forward style that not all that many bands seem to remember, and then of course with Renae on vocals with smart lyrics of a political and personal nature dealing with issues and life and with this band is just rad all around. (On the Rag Records/PO Box 251/Norco CA 92860-0251) (-Chris) **ALTERCADO - EL RUIDO Y LA RABIA CD** Excellent fast simple hardcore from Chile. When it's good, this reminds me a lot of SIN ORDEN, the teenage powerhouse that exploded out of Chicago's south side a few years ago, rapid fire, in your face punk rock, with vocals so manic they are almost shrieked rather than screamed. □ But ALTERCADO mix things up as well. □ "Vivir..." is an awesome slower song with clean guitars and a sound that brings to mind more rudimentarily early 1980's Latin American punk bands, but other attempts to stray from the hardcore mold ("Almas Faltadas," for example) are not as successful. □ Lyrics and explanations in español, so I can only imagine that the venom spewed is of a political nature. With songs like "Pinochet Muerto" and "Poder Judicial," I think that is a safe assumption. □ A totally solid release, worth your time and then some. □ (pje 11 #415, Capricornio, Graneros, VI region CHILE, reacion56@latinmail.com) (-Robert)

ANDDYNE - SALO CD Professional polished noisy metal influenced dirge, performed to near perfection. □ This band's been around for years now, and fans of KEELHAUL, CONVERGE, and the like, have no doubt already made their opinions. □ These seven songs are slightly more cacophonous than ANDDYNE's previous efforts, which makes for a sometimes trying, but sometimes excellent listen. While I was not sold through the first six tracks, their cover of HUSKER DU's "Beyond the Threshold" makes me want to find each member of this band and one at a time shove rusty sewer pipes up their asses. □ What the fuck were you thinking? □ (lnt, PO Box 871, Sioux Falls, SD 57101) (-Robert)

ANTIDOTE - THOU SHALT NOT KILL CD This is one of the best re-issue re-releases that has come out in ages. Antidote are a crucial NYC hardcore band from the 80s. From back in the day before the tough guy mosh shit took over. This is just straight forward in your face aggressive and punchy speed power hardcore, with a vocal style that influenced later era bands as well. This is an ep that I "grew up on" even though this band has disbanded by the time I lived there, I did see them play at least once and they remained an influence on the bands that followed years later. This is amazing and it's the sort of classic that every hardcore punk should get their ears on. Since the '82 ep is impossible to find, this re-done CD version will take care of feeding the craving for the

goods and firmly establish their sound and style on this full length as uniquely their own. Masters I tell you. This is the fucking shit! (Prank Records/PO Box 410892/SF CA 94141-0892) (-Chris) *****

ASS CHORD SERVICE- MASSAGE INCLUDED CD: Ass Chord Service are "a bunch of older scenesters from Munster." They have been playing in "bands for at least more than ten years." They play "rocking, old school hardcore" that sounds like a mix between Bad Religion, All, and Fear. Doesn't sound "enough fresh" for my tastes. I love translated press releases, though. (Ass-Card Records, Annenstr. 5, 44137 Dortmund, Germany / www.asscardrecords.com) -TNT

ATOM AND HIS PACKAGE - HAIR DEBATABLE CD This is a live CD of Atom's last show which takes place at the Unitarian church in Philly. In case you don't know who Atom and His Package are, they are a one-man band that makes extremely danceable music with witty lyrics. I am rarely a fan of live recordings and this one is no exception. I think that it would have made a lot more sense to just release a best of with all the studio tracks on it cause seeing Atom and His Package is really all about the dance party. I feel like the live recording only takes away from the songs rather than adding anything. But for me the saving grace here is the DVD which has the last show and a couple of documentaries and even a very strange music video. I felt like being able to see the crowd actually helped the recording a bit and the video is really worth the price of the CD alone. (Hopeless Records/PO Box 7495/Van Nuys, CA 91409-7495/ www.hopelessrecords.com) (european)

BACKSTABBERS INC. - KAMIKAZE MISSIONS CD This is what I thought hardcore was supposed to evolve into. Nary a disappointing moment on this fiery disc. From Ashes Rise fans take note. These tracks smoke and give me hope for more bands to take up the task of not being afraid to make their own music. Real music is where it's at for those who take charge and come up with new shit. Bad-ass lyrics la' boot. Take heed and give 'em a twirl. (TRASH ART! Records/PO Box 725/Providence, RI 02901) (-Johnny)

BAD BUSINESS - \$7 CD I think the thing I like most about this band is the abundance of bird artwork. They play a rockin' style of hardcore with emphasis on the rock. Moderate mid-paced and catchy, the vocals are harsh with a screamed raspy style. They've got some good chunky guitar parts and change up their tempos from dirge to blistering, while keeping it old-school hardcore all the while, and busting out a good catchy rockin' beat. It's refreshing to hear the straight forward style, but I gotta admit I wasn't as enamored as I wanted to be. Guess the straight forward hardcore just doesn't grab me these days the way it does some. This is solid straight forward with old-school roots, pure and simple. (Grave Mistake Records/899 Kings Retreat Dr./Davidsonville MD 21035) (-Chris)

BAIL OUT - DEMO CASSETTE Youth crew breakdowns and thrashcore from kids in the nations capital. After the first song about detention, BAIL OUT offer a killer track about throwing eggs at people... you get the drift. The music is old school hardcore at it's finest, and I'm pretty into the juvenile nature of the songs (did I mention "Skate Assisted Deathbeat"?). Send 'em your cash (\$4 ppd cb/bailout@yahoo.com) (-Robert)

BEHIND ENEMY LINES - THE GLOBAL CANNIBAL LP It's been a few issues now since I reviewed the CD version, and now this latest full-length from Pittsburgh's best political metal punk band is available on vinyl. And that means the artwork is bigger and it seems like there is even more of it in the huge booklet, most of which is in the form of hard hitting John Yates style political commentary poster collages that are crucial to the times of the current political climate and administration. Behind Enemy Lines, is one of the best bands going today. Everything about this is dead on, spine-chilling and earth shattering. They fucking rock and knock you dead with intense political lyrics at the same time. Epic and monumental, this record lurches shreds to perfection. Their sound is heavy and powerful beyond description with a thick distorted power and a wall of lowering amps delivering metallic rage. They've come unto a masterful place here with layered vocals, and rhythmic weaving hooks that don't quit. Totally metal without compromising their undying punkness at all. The lyrics are epic and amazing detailed attacks on George and his government and politics, globalization, religion, choice, food, war and all the corrupt issues that plague the world. This is peace punk like you've never heard before. I love the way the vocals are all woven, layered and relentless to match the uncompromised attack of the wall of powered pummeling drums and guitar that weave hooks to get your skin standing on end. We're lucky to have bands this fucking amazing around to inspire us and give us fuel. I like my metal. I like my peace punk and politics, and I love this group of people and this band. I can't say enough good stuff about them, and this record - it's like an anvil to knock you out or a wakeup call to light the spark and now is a damn good time to get this kind of fuel. It's essential! (Antagony Media/PO Box 10790/Pittsburgh PA 15203/BEH/PO Box 42341/Pittsburgh PA 15203) (-Chris) *****

BEYOND DESCRIPTION - ROAD TO A BRILLIANT FUTURE CD Another quality release by these Japanese h.c./punk/thrash veterans. Quality, clean recording, but not overproduced. Recording really fits their sounds, to capture their fast thrash punk assault, mixed in with traditional Japanese h.c. parts with nipping solo's! Gets real up-

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***KILLED IN ACTION-"We Ruin**

Fun"LP/CD The sound of an A-Bomb hitting Columbus!!! Manic HC frenzy!!

***CAPITALIST CASUALTIES-CD**

an issue of class war, disaster, CD

THE POSITIVE VEGAN #3 (freetrade) (send postally) 47 Chaucer St./Moonie Ponds/Melbourne/Vic Australia 3039) This is a vegan cookzine inspired by fall and winter recipes cause you know, the Southern Hemisphere has the opposite seasons as us here in the North. There are some yummy sounding things here - samosas, polenta bread, seitan wheat meat, spinach pie, stuffed potatoes, gnocchi, chai cake, steamed almond pudding. I swear everything in here sounds amazing. There are also a few full color photos added in the center to entice you even more. I think every vegan cookzine is worth having. (-Chris)

THE PUTANGINA MO #1 (Postage/Jay Garcia/Cluster-M/Lot-72 Bagong Nayon 1, Antipolo City 1870, Philippines) I have no idea what the title of this means, maybe you do? Two page, back and front deal from the Philippines, written in English. An interview with Croatian band Lasting Values on one page and an interview with the author of "The Way of the Warrior" zine. Leaving me not much too comment on here. I was hoping to learn more about the Philippine scene, but perhaps in the next issue? (-Andy) Issue #2 just arrived, and it has an int'l w/ French band Organ Grinder, and Akupunkura zine from Serbia. There's a bit about life in the Philippines, and that is about it on these 4 pages. (-Chris)

TONES & NOTES #1 (\$/PO Box 190/Philomath OR 97370) From the folks at Dwelling Portably, who recently published "Chord Easy", comes the latest - Tones & Notes which is about making your own music in a classical sense—composing, arranging, noting, playing, etc. What I mean by classic sense is that this contains diagrams of chording, and considering that most of the musicians I know don't even know how to read music, this is like totally foreign territory for me. However, if you are interesting in discussions about writing music and maintaining DIY values while educating yourself about this subject, then that is the focus of this new publication. (-Chris)

TROUBLE IN MIND #6 (\$2ppd/Erik/PO Box 44254/Detroit MI 48244) This new issue is awesome and it looks fantastic with a letter press printed linocut looking cityscape print cover. Wow! This whole issue is illustrated with Erik's narrative

interesting if you're... like... totally into Tear It Up. Voices Wake Up side is not my favorite thing in the whole world, to say the least. If you're into know it all college kids who, I'm going to take a wild guess, just recently got into international h.c., and would now like to school us on what's good, in an authoritative, trying to be controversial manner, all the while complaining of the "hippy" politics of certain bands. Features a top 11 crossover albums (almost half of which, if you want to be a dick about it, aren't "crossover" albums). (-Andy)

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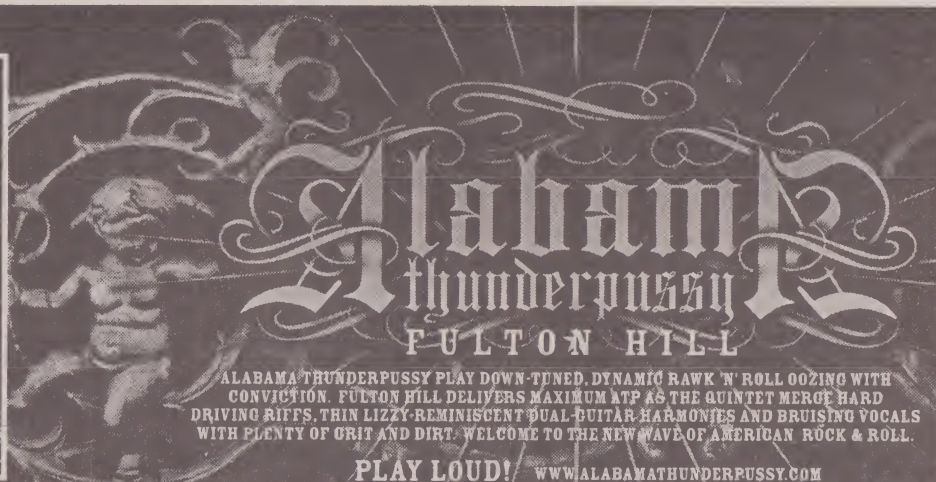
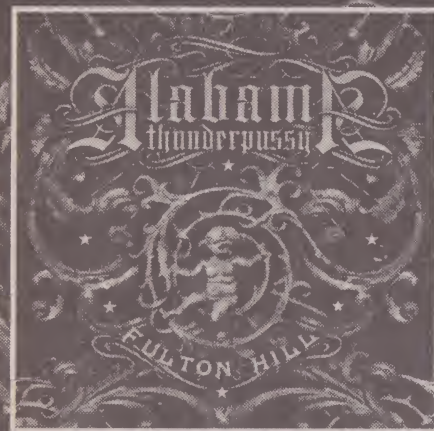
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As listed Dealbeat 7) Send em your cash (\$4 ppd c/o backout@yahoo.com) (-Robert)

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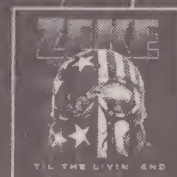
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tempo at times. Lyrics in Japanese, but the booklet included English translations for you crackers out there. I really think this is a Japanese band that often gets overlooked in this sea of hype. Pick it up! (C.A.H. Records/PO Box 1421 Eau Claire, WI 54702/orders@cahrecords) (-Andy)

BLACK CROSS - WIDOWS BLOODY WIDOWS CD Having gotten caught up in the name-change game after originally being called The Black Widows, they settled on Black Cross, and this CD compiles their material recorded as the BW's. 13 tracks reminding me of Swiz-meets-Drive Like Jehu, with lots of booming guitars, tight drumming, and well-screamed vocals. A nice place to get all the earlier stuff by this band for anyone without a record player (though records still rule). Neat foil-embossed packaging too! (Initial Records, PO Box 17131, Louisville, KY 40217 www.initialrecords.com) (Dave)

BLACK HEART VALENTINE - COEP In the sea of the genre of metallic hardcore, so much all starts to sound the same, but this Richmond band is actually better than that. They are really fucking metal, with a chunky and chuggy style, that ends up being more metallic than hardcore. The vocals are screamy and raspy. They've got some At the Gates-ish styled Swedish metal influence here and there and a weaving guitar style as well. I just saw them and they were really fucking good, and better in fact, than this ep, which leads me to believe that their new and upcoming release will be excellent. Anyway, if you like metal-hardcore, Black Heart Valentine are good cause while their influences and style are somewhat predictable, they manage to still not sound like everyone and everything else, that that counts for a lot these days. This is solid, heavy, and good. (Upchuck Records <www.blackheartvalentine.com>) (-Chns)

BLINDED - MORDAZA CD In an attempt to be diplomatic, I'll describe this as a cross between WAY later C.O.C. and slow groove influenced death metal. It did get fast, seven minutes into the disc, but it didn't last. Power metal guitar leads and soulful vocals round out the package...delicious. Lyrics admirably translated into Basque and English. (From The Lost To The River, Apdo. 6129 50080 Zaragoza SPAIN) (-Robert)

BLOOD RED SKY - DEMO CD This erupts with wailing guitar leads and probably would have sent me in the other direction, if it were not for the amazing mystical metal female vocals that epicly come forth. She sings. I mean really sings - operatic and amazing. This is a metal band from Portland. Her vocals are all up front and clear, while this 4 song demo blasts forth with decent chunky death metal, with a good throttle to the drum guitar delivery, and plenty of galloping guitar leads as well. That in fact would be the only thing that is to my tastes, not perfect - the over done guitar solos. Needless to say, as a lover of metal, female singers and the combo - I'm totally enamored and I can not wait to see/hear more from this band hopefully with a little less guitar soloing.

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Just 4 songs on this, but they are long metal songs. (\$5ppd/4914 NE 17th/Portland OR 97211) (-Chns)

BOJLER-KOLEKCIJA 1991-1998 CD Remember when you were a little kid and you got a casio keyboard for your 10th birthday and you made a bunch of songs and recorded them on the Fisher-Price tape recorder you got for your 7th birthday? Well, this CD is essentially that tape put out on a more stable format. Most of the songs on this CD were recorded when the kids were ten years old. Why, you may ask? You'll have to e-mail them. Bojler are from Serbia. (HitBoxRecords. www.hitboxrecords.com / bojler91@yahoo.com) (-TNT)

BOMBENALARM - #1 CASSETTE Kick ass heavy as bricks dark hardcore crust from Deutschland. There is melody here, as the black clad punks are known to do these days, but this is primarily a punk assault. Very dark, and The Beat Of D rears it's head quite often. This kinda reminds me of DIALLO at times, but BOMBENALARM add elements of melody differently than DIALLO, sounding almost poppy. I can tell myself its cause they love classic DeutschPunk like STRASSENJUNGS or NEUROTIC ARSEHOLES, but all the Germans I know hate that shit, so I'll chalk to great melodies up to great songwriting. If this is a demo, then I'm going to be floored by the record, as this gem could go straight to vinyl with no complaints from me. Oh yeah, JOY DIVISION cover. (WasteYourLife Tapes, Auerstr. 51, 45468 Mulheim/ Ruhr GERMANY) (-Robert)

BUMKLAATT - CIEGOS CD Melody filled intense Crustcore from the USA/Mexico. This brings together elements of TRAGEDY with Swedish crust leanings and some of the grndhardcore sound coming from Mexico these days. This CD offers up 7 new tracks plus their 6 track 7" ep. Definitely worth checking out. (Cryptas/apartado postal #16-052/C.P. 02011 D.F./Mexico) (-JAY) Yes, they sent several copies, and we all got one, and I've been listening to this regularly and loving the epic, triumphant intro and the way it delves into some awesome crust punk, that is just, well awesome!! (-Chns)

BURNING IMAGE - 1983-1987 CD This is an old Goth punk band that released a 7" and then disappeared, but not without making Jello Biafra one obsessed man. I was initially pretty excited to see this, even though I've never heard of them, it fits right into what I was totally into back when this was happening in the 80s. But truth be told, hearing it now today, it's not that great. Well maybe it is, but I kinda wanted to like it more. It's low-fi in that 80s kind of way, the vocals ooze in that gothy Christian Death way. Overall this is like a cross between Christian Death, Mighty Spincter, Bat Cave, and the Cramps, and the overall sound is kinda like a cross between those bands that the many others of the genre that explored goth rock and punk rock. While this was something totally new without a genre in the mid 80s, it's being latched onto now and kinda making a comeback with the death rock and goth kids. So perhaps this band with get some of that deserved attention, cause while this doesn't change my life like it did Jello's I can understand why he was so obsessed. (Alternative Tentacles/PO Box 419092/SF CA 94141-9092) (-Chns)

BURY THE LIVING - S/T LP Who would have guessed that something so pissed off could come out of Memphis, TN??? Vocally reminding me of Infest, but musically isn't always as fast - but still really angry though. This band has other releases out, but I think this is their first full length effort. They mix things up quite well, something you can't do too much on a 7" release. If you like it fast & mean - this is right up your alley! (Soul Is Cheap, PO Box 11552, Memphis, TN 38111) (Dave)

CHARGE - UNIVERSAL TRIBE CD A bubbling stew of Bad Brains, Rage, Snake Anywhere and some dub and hip-hop spice adds to the flavah. Hawd Coo parts obviously from the New York groove. JAH is alive and well in these brewd. COO YAH to these hot-steppers! (HELL BENT Records/PO Box 1529/Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742) (-Johnny)

CIRCLES OVER SIDELIGHTS - ..ON BECOMING A PERSON CD Reigning from Ohio, C.O.S. has a what's rapidly becoming an all too familiar sound. Indie Metal Core bands are popping up in droves. Not that I am against that at all. It makes for better listening than whatever is on the radio for sure. C.O.S. have ga-gunk-a-gunk guitar hunks, noodle lead breaks, blast happy drum squirts and screamy dual vocal hoots. Not a bad band but I wouldn't doubt their next disc would shine a little brighter with a bit more maturity. (-Johnny) This is metallic hardcore with plenty of angry ndden aggressive edge. It's discordant and metallic at the same time, with super screamy vocals and a painful raw quality that is not a comment of the recording, which is solid and thick. They definitely travel a broad range of styles, from the hardcore to the quiet Opheth pretty guitar moments, and then back again to the abrasion and the Converge styled manic hardcore style. Quite diverse, and ultimately up someone else's alley more than mine, though they're solid, good and still unique even with the companions. (\$10ppd/Immigrant Sun/PO Box 150711/Brooklyn NY 11215) (-Chns)

CONSUME - CONSUME CD This is a discography of their various 7"s in a great looking digipack fold out spine CD package. This Seattle band plays pummeling and raging crust punk with a galloping style and deep growls. Having a lot of Consume to listen to lately, I kind thought that there was something about them that was repetitive, that didn't quite take me into my usual manic fervor. But I take it back cause this collection totally rocks. They play with a raging pummeling speed, a drum beat and guitar combo that is hard driving and furious in that crusty punk way, that rages, pummels and rocks in that way, which may be predictable, but that I so love. They fit the classic bill, and might even have some of that "genec 90s crust" sound, but that is actually an all right thing cause they do it right and it rocks. Put your crust fist in the air and let it rock. This contains the s17", the Forked Tongue 7", and the tracks from the Hellshock and Resolve splits, plus an ALF comp track. (Insane Society Records/PO Box 6/50101 Hradec Kralove 2/ Czech Republic <www.insanesociety.net>) (-Chns)

at least to my town. (\$2 ppd c/b Philip Knowles 127780 E. 2200 St. Atkinson IL 61235) (-Robert)

CUT THE SHIT - MARKED FOR LIFE CD A couple of ex-TEAR IT UP dudes and a penchant for thrash infused with killer breakdowns. That about covers it. The CD includes the two CUT THE SHIT EPs, which kinda kills the "album" aesthetic (a general criticism, not specifically related to this disc), but still after 25 track (12 of which are on the album) I'm trapped by their catchy riffs, by the rock and roll, and by the fucking fury directed at nearly everyone in the lyrics. The TEAR IT UP companion is inescapable, and not just cause they share a dude or two, this is the natural progression, with a slight turn in the direction of the rock. A good direction to turn, if you ask me. (Gloom, PO Box 14253, Albany, NY 12212) (-Robert)

DEADFALL - DESTROYED BY YOUR OWN DEVICE CD This SF hardcore band play fast and funous, short fast and loud, with a blistering attack of straight forward in your face hardcore mayhem. You can hear the vocals, the guitars are not metal, this is just straight up hardcore that alternates from a moderate catchy pace, to a totally frantic one. Brings to mind hardcore thrash from the 80s, which of course has just as much of a modern influence and place these days as well. (Six Weeks/225 Lincoln Ave./Cotah CA 94931)



(-Chns)

DEATHTOLL - #1 EP A supergroup featuring members of Bay Area bands most folks haven't heard of...I, MADMAN, DEFACE and ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT all contributed members to DEATHTOLL, and the result falls, not surprisingly, squarely in the void left by the absence of those bands. Fast full bodied hardcore with elements of crossover metal, European crust and D-Beat madness. Bordering on too perfect, DEATHTOLL play like pros, tight and fast, the way punk should be. Seven songs here, I'm sure we'll here more in the future. (Kangaroo, Middenweg 13, 1098 AA Amsterdam, HOLLAND) (-Robert)

DESCENDENTS - COOL TO BE YOU CD New records from my favorite bands especially ones this old always make me apprehensive. This record is way more reminiscent of their last record "Everything Sucks" than their earlier material. By that I mean that it's more poppy then quirky or funny. That's really fine with me because in my opinion they are amazing at playing pop punk and all my favorite Descendents songs have always been the poppy ones like "Clean Sheets" or "Silly Girl." They lyrically cover their typical topics like girls, fun, and staying young but they also make political statements in songs like "Mencan." A song that almost sounds like Bad Religion. Milo's voice is still as amazing as it ever was. I hope it doesn't take them another 7 years to make another. (fat wreck chords/PO Box 193690/San Francisco, CA 94119/www.fatwreck.com) (european)

DESCENDENTS - MERICAN CD Holy crap! A new Descendents record is coming out this year! When I heard Everything Sucks, I was afraid, well, that it would suck. But it didn't. It was rad. The Descendents have always been one of my favorite bands and as long as it takes for them to put their records out is worth the wait. Mencan is a four song teaser for the new record, Cool to Be You, out this summer. I can't wait. The four songs on this ep are about doing nothing, being proud and ashamed of our country, a girl, and being frustrated with making money off of music. The Descendents are rad and I hope they never break up. Milo continues to prove that having a PhD is not synonymous with growing up. Let's hope for a summer tour. Oh yeah, the CD has a bonus track that I could do without. (Fat Wreck Chords, P.O. Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119) (-TNT)

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emotional / 'cuz that's what the one-sheet says). The music is pretty nice, so check it out especially if you know Polish. (Trujaca Fala, P.O. Box 13, 81 806 Sopot 6, Poland/www.trujacafala.com) (-TNT)

DIE YOUNG - THE MESSAGE CD Tough and pissed metallic heavy hardcore from Texas, that sounds more like it's from NYC. It's aggressive with a metallic edge that fully delivers the anger and toughness. This is heavy, tight and punchy without going overboard. In other words, they keep it hardcore. They've got the breakdowns and the power, to leave a clear path behind them. It's just metallic enough to be heavy, but not to be more like than hardcore. The vocal style is tough and raspy and pissed. And while they're likened to Hatebreed or Madball, I'd say they're less metal and more hardcore, which is cool. This CD contains new songs plus their 2 7" releases. (\$10ppd/Immigrant Sun/PO Box 150711/Brooklyn NY 11215) (-Chns)

DIRECT CONTROL - #1 EP Fucking get this record. Best thing I've heard in months...old school hardcore punk roughly in the vein of early 80s LA bands you love (not that BLACK FLAG band). The vocal delivery is perfect, kinda like TEEN IDLES style, and the songs are fucking spectacular. Check full of melody, but always rocking full on, with guitar leads and solos only when appropriate and presented with

a recording that brings "The Kids Will Have Their Say" to mind. Use JERRY'S KIDS as a reference as well...but whatever you do, get this. This EP goes in the "If you only get one record this month..." category. It makes me wish I had the ability to REALLY push about records like Chris(tine) does. It's that good. (Kangaroo, Middenweg 13, 1098 AA Amsterdam, HOLLAND) (-Robert)

DISCARGA - SEM REMORSO CD Brasil's DISCARGA have been wowing the thrash nuts for a few years, and these tracks are no exception. 3 dudes making one hell of a racket, and never falling on the crutches of blasting. More inspired by US thrashcore and powercore than Brasil's old guard, this is 20 some odd minutes of time changes, stopstarts, shouted vocals and thrashing madness. Awesome. (625) (-Robert)

DISKONTO - WE ARE THE PEOPLE OUR PARENTS WARNED US ABOUT CD Their records have never blown me away, but this DISKONTO disc is a fucking tomatod! 23 tracks, and it just rages from start to finish, often so fast that the D-Beat is just a blurred mess (that's a good thing). The riffs are all over the place, and when they do slow the pace just a bit, you can practically see the fists in the air and the pit raging. No complaints. (Six Weeks) (-Robert)

DOOSDOMD - D-TAKT CD Sit back and prepare for the assault of pummeling Swedish hardcore. I'm hardly the expert on the Scandi HC D-beat scene, but I know what I like and in a sea of so many bands that sound similar and so many CDs to listen to this one stands out and demands notice and attention and fucking rocked me hard. They play the expected style, but better somehow because it stands out. The sound is thick and heavy, the dual vocal style plays off the higher pitched with the deeper and gruffer crust style both of which are extreme and harsh. The drums blast along at a rapid pace, but they also slow down to a good rockin' groove. Before cranking up to a frenzy.

This is fucking great! Lynce tackle what you might expect, which is not to dismiss the topics against war, police states, computers taking over, punks dropping out to society, the mindlessness of work, and other smart topics - ynecs are in Swedish with translations. This fucking smokes and is up there with the best of them, perhaps even soaring well beyond. I LOVE THIS! Nice bird logo art too! (Putnif Dfth Conspiracy Box 7092/200 42 Maimo Sweden/-info@putnifdth.com/www.putnifdth.com>) (-Chns) *****

DOLPHIN - DEMO CD Remember the review of the DOLPHIN demo tape 2 issues back? This is even better... Why this band is not huge is beyond me. Fuous Dbeat mixed with straight ahead hardcore, all with flawless raspy throat searing vocals. Hardcore fucking punk. The fast parts will slay you, and when they slow it down, DOLPHIN are as crushing as anybody going, and they don't need a \$5,000 recording to prove it. Put your money in the mail, and get this before you get anything else. (2223 H Street, Bellingham, WA 98225) (-Robert)

DRAFT DODGER - GUANTANAMO BAY HOLIDAY EP I fully expected grnd mania to greet me when I set down the needle, but how gloriously wrong I was! Bare bones distorted hardcore, the kind of thing that would appeal to those of us who are enjoying the magic of bands like CAREER SUICIDE & FUCKED UP, you know? Hardcore punk? Heard of it? Well, this is some of it, and it's good. Mid-tempo punk with suno'snared vocals and a dirty feel to the whole recording. Spite filled lyrics 'bout war, imperialism (and the accompanying xenophobia) and other shit that's lame. Total kick ass, I'm at a loss for words so I'll use theirs: "My cold wars have defrosted we're stockpiling snafrozen hate" (from "Make Mine A Double SARS"), "I choose not the leaders, the hand that feeds us is only using the middle finger" (from the theme song, every band should have one). Best record of the month. (Endless Blockades, PO Box 3023, South Brisbane BC, QLD 4101 AUSTRALIA) (-Robert)

EAT THE LIVING - S/T CD This four song CD erupts in total brutality, with extreme gnarly androgynous female vocals that are raspy and evil sounding, while taking a metallic direction in the music that changes from slow and dirgey to manic and thrashy, and manages to maintain a classic punk style of roots underneath the crazed changes. One minute total death metal, blast beat driven mania, the next there's an almost poppy punchy beat that slows down to a sludgy and heavy breakdown, which erupts again, but Jenocide's vocals never relent with the brutal assault. This is fucking cool. Unfortunately the CD contains no info, lyrics or really anything about them. (30163 12th Avenue Rd. #1974, Toluca Lake, CA 91602)

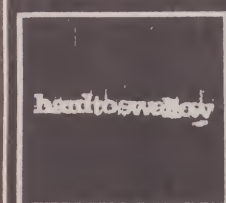
BLIND-DEAD-MORDAZZA CD In an attempt to be as cross regularity and loving the epic, triumphant intro and the way it deves into some awesome crust punk, that is just, well awesome! (-Chns) **BURNING IMAGE-1983-1987 CD** This is an old Goth punk band that released a 7" and then disappeared, but not without making Jello Biafra one obsessed man. I was initially pretty excited to see this, even though I've never heard of them, it fits right into what I was totally into back when this was happening in the 80s. But truth be told, hearing it now today, it's not that great. Well maybe it is, but I kinda wanted to like it more. It's low-f in that 80s kind of way, the vocals ooze in that gothic Christian Death way. Overall this is like a cross between Christian Death, Mighty Spinrunch, Bat Cave, and the Cramps, and the overall sound is kinda like a cross between those bands that the many others of the genre that explored goth rock and punk rock. 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(Soul Is Cheap, PO Box 11552, Memphis, TN 38111) (Dave) **CHARGE - UNIVERSAL TRIBE CD** A bubbling stew of Bad Brains, Rage, Strike Anywhere and some dub and hip-hop spice adds to the flavah. Hawk Court parts obviously from the New York groove. JAH is alive and well with these brethren. COO YAH to these hot-steppers! (HELL BENT Records/PO Box 1529/Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742) (-Johnny) **CIRCLES OVER SIDELIGHTS - ON BECOMING A PERSON CD** Reigning from Ohio, C.O.S. has what's rapidly becoming an all too familiar sound. Indie Metal Core bands are popping up in droves. Not that I am against that at all. It makes for better listening than whatever is on the radio for sure. C.O.S. have ga-gunk-a-gunk guitar hunks, noodle lead breaks, blast happy drum squirts and screamy dual vocal hoots. Not a bad band but I wouldn't doubt their next disk would shine a little brighter with a bit more maturity. (-Johnny) This is metallic hardcore with plenty of angry ndden aggressive edge. 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But I take it back cause this collection totally rocks. They play with a raging pummeling speed, a drum beat and guitar combo that is hard driving and furious in that crusty punk way, that rages, pummels and rocks in that way, which may be predictable, but that I so love. They fit the classic bill, and might even have some of that "generic 90s crust" sound, but that is actually an all right thing cause they do it right and it rocks. Put your crust fist in the air and let it rock. This contains the s4 7", the Forked Tongue 7", and the tracks from the Hellshock and Resolve splits, plus an ALF comp track. (Insane Society Records/PO Box 6/50101 Hradec Kralove 2/ Czech Republic <www.insanesociety.net>) (-Chns) **CRACK - BLIND CASSETTE** Atkinson, Illinois? Yeah, there's punks there, at least 2 of them. 1-2-1-2 punk rock that feels more like classic midwestern hardcore than like anything based on current trends. While I imagine that this is by accident, and not design, isn't that exactly how the true classic hardcore bands started? While naturally they (early 80s small town hardcore bands) had resources, they were also trapped in a virtual punk vacuum, and the result was punk with all the aggression and none of the rules. CRACKS has the same feel, there's no one to tell them they can't do something, so they rock it, and the result is 8 songs that would have changed my life had they been from MY town when I was young and fresh. Pretty lo-fi, but punk as fucking shit, and the songs are full of catchy riffs and quirky freshness. I say they need to get a bass player (the drummer takes care of the bass on the recording) and fucking tour the world...or

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TOTALITAR WALLBREAKER 1986-1989 CD OUT NOW!
THIS TOTALITAR RELEASE COMPILES THE EARLIEST MATERIAL BY THIS SWEDISH HARDCORE PUNK BAND. 21 STUDIO TRACKS AND 9 LIVE SONGS RECORDED BETWEEN 1986 AND 1989. INCLUDES THREE OUT OF PRINT EP'S. A CLASSIC DOCUMENT OF ONE OF OUR FAVORITE BANDS.



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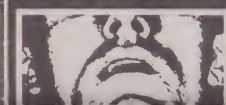
TRAGEDY/TOTALITAR SPLIT 7"
TRAGEDY PRESENT TWO SONGS OF DARK AND HEAVY HARDCORE, RECORDED AT THE TIME OF THEIR FIRST LP. BRUTAL SOUND, ANGRY AND INSPIRING LYRICS. TOTALITAR HAVE TWO SONGS RECORDED AT THE TIME OF THEIR CLASSIC "SIN GON." LP. RE-WORKING TWO SONGS FROM THE 1986 DEMO. GREAT SOUND, GREAT LYRICS, NO BULLSHIT. THIS IS WHAT HARDCORE SHOULD ASPIRE TO.



DROPDEAD - "S/T 1998" LP/CD
ORIGINALLY RELEASED IN 1996, THE LP VERSION PLAYS FROM THE INSIDE TO THE OUT SIDE ON SIDE ONE. 10 SONGS IN A DECIDEDLY MORE SWEDISH HC VEIN, BUT WITH THE USUAL ODD BREAKS AND FAST PARTS THROUGHOUT. MORE MELODIC THAN THE FIRST LP IN SOME WAYS, AND NOISIER IN OTHERS. NOW AVAILABLE ON CD FOR THE FIRST TIME.



DROPDEAD - "S/T 1993" LP/CD
ORIGINALLY RELEASED IN 1993 ON SELFLESS RECS, THIS 34 SONG ALBUM WAS RE-RELEASED WITH UPDATED ARTWORK AND LYRICS. INFLUENCED BY THE OLD JAPANESE, EUROPEAN, AND SOME US HARDCORE. AN EXTREME MIX OF FAST AND MID-PACED PARTS WITH ANGRY VOCALS AND PERSONAL/POLITICAL LYRICS. NOW AVAILABLE ON CD AS WELL.



DROPDEAD - "1991-1993 DISCOGRAPHY" LP/CD
ORIGINALLY RELEASED IN 1994 AS AN 11" LP ON CLEARVIEW, AND REGULAR LP ON FLAT EARTH IN THE UK IN 1995. A COLLECTION OF 39 SONGS COMPILED FROM THE FIRST TO THE SEVENTH WITH



(Chns) **DEATHTOLL - S/EP** A supergroup featuring members of Bay Area bands most folks haven't heard of...I, MADMAN, DEFACE and ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT all contributed members to DEATHTOLL, and the result falls, not surprisingly, squarely in the void left by the absence of those bands. Fast full bodied hardcore with elements of crossover metal, European crust and D-Beat madness. Bordering on too perfect, DEATHTOLL play like pros, tight and fast, the way punk should be. Seven songs here, I'm sure we'll here more in the future. (Kangaroo, Middenweg 13, 1098 AA Amsterdam, HOLLAND) (-Robert)

DESCENDENTS - COOL TO BE YOU CD New records from my favorite bands especially ones this old always make me apprehensive. This record is way more reminiscent of their last record "Everything Sucks" than their earlier material. By that I mean that it's more poppy than quirky or funny. That's really fine with me because in my opinion they are amazing at playing pop punk and all my favorite Descendents songs have always been the poppy ones like "Clean Sheets" or "Silly Girl." They lyrically cover their typical topics like girls, fun, and staying young but they also make political statements in songs like "Mencan" A song that almost sounds like Bad Religion. Milo's voice is still as amazing as it ever was. I hope it doesn't take them another 7 years to make another. (fat wreck chords/PO Box 193690/San Francisco, CA 94119/www.fatwreck.com) (european) **DESCENDENTS - AMERICAN CD** Holy crap! A new Descendents record is coming out this year! When I heard Everything Sucks, I was afraid, well, that it would suck. But it didn't. It was rad. The Descendents have always been one of my favorite bands and as long as it takes for them to put their records out is worth the wait. "Mencan is a four song teaser for the new record, Cool to Be You, out this summer. I can't wait. The four songs on this ep are about doing nothing, being proud and ashamed of our country, a girl, and being frustrated with making money off of music. The Descendents are rad and I hope they never break up. Milo continues to prove that having a PhD is not synonymous with growing up. Let's hope for a summer tour. Oh yeah, the CD has a bonus track that I could do without. (Fat Wreck Chords, P.O. Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119) -TNT

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DIE LAST - MEDECINE CD The Last play melodic punk rock with a political slant like if early 90s era Ebulition Records bands met Leatherface. They are from Poland. As I do not read Polish, I cannot tell you what the lyrics are about, but I'm sure they're about socio-political issues, animals rights, and some personal stuff to make them extra

are no exception. 3 dudes making one hell of a racket, never falling like the others. More inspired by US thrashcore and powerwornance than Brasil's old guard, This is 20 some odd minutes of time changes, stop/starts, shouted vocals and thrashing madness. Awesome. (625) (-Robert) **DISKONTO - WE ARE THE PEOPLE OUR PARENTS WARNED US ABOUT CD** Their records have never blown me away, but this DISKONTO disc is a fucking tomado! 23 tracks, and it just rages from start to finish, often so fast that the D-Beat is just a blurred mess (that's a good thing). The riffs are all over the place, and when they do slow the pace just a bit, you can practically see the fists in the air and the pit raging. No complaints. (Six Weeks) (-Robert) **DODSDOMD - D-TAKT CD** Sit back and prepare for the assault of pummeling Swedish hardcore. I'm hardly the expert on the Scandi HC D-beat scene, but I know what I like and in a sea of so many bands that sound similar and so many CDs to listen to this one stands out and demands notice and attention and fucking rocked me hard. They play the expected style, but better somehow because it stands out. The sound is thick and heavy, the dual vocal style plays off the higher pitched with the deeper and gruffer crust style both of which are extreme and harsh. The drums blast along at a rapid pace, but they also slow down to a good rockin' groove, before cranking up to a frenzy.

This is fucking great! Lyncs tackle what you might expect, which is not to dismiss the topics against war, police states, computers taking over, punks dropping out to society, the mindlessness of work, and other smart topics - lyncs are in Swedish with translations. This fucking smokes and is up there with the best of them, perhaps even soaring well beyond. I LOVE THIS! Nice bird logo art too! (Putrid Filth Conspiracy Box 7092/200 42 Malmö Sweden/ <info@putridfilth.com/www.putridfilth.com>) (-Chns) *****

DOLPHIN - DEMO CD Remember the review of the DOLPHIN demo tape 2 issues back? This is even better. Why this band is not huge is beyond me. Furious Debat mixed with straight ahead hardcore, all with flawless raspy throat searing vocals. Hardcore fucking punk. The fast parts will say you, and when they slow it down, DOLPHIN are as crushing as anybody going, and they don't need a \$5,000 recording to prove it. Put your money in the mail, and get this before you get anything else. (2223 H Street, Bellingham, WA 98225) (-Robert)

DRAFT DODGER - GUANTANAMO BAY HOLIDAY EP I fully expected grind mania to greet me when I set down the needle, but how gloriously wrong I was! Bare bones distorted hardcore, the kind of thing that would appeal to those of us who are enjoying the magic of bands like CAREER SUICIDE & FUCKED UP, you know? Hardcore punk? Heard of it? Well, this is some of it, and it's good. Mid-tempo punk with sung/snarled vocals and a dirty feel to the whole recording. Spoite filled lyrics 'bout war, imperialism (and the accompanying xenophobia) and other shit that's lame. I totally kick ass, I'm at a loss for words so I'll use theirs: "My cold wars have defrosted/we're stockpiling snap frozen hate" (from "Make Mine A Double SARS"). "I choose not the leaders, the hand that feeds us is only using the middle finger" (from the theme song, every band should have one). Best record of the month. (Endless Blockades, PO Box 3023, South Brisbane BC, QLD 4101 AUSTRALIA) (-Robert)

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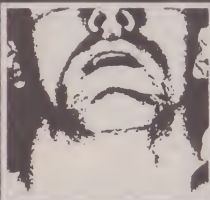
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edge. It's discordant and metallic at the same time, with super screechy vocals and a painful raw quality that is not a comment of the recording, which is solid and thick. They definitely travel a broad range of styles, from the hardcore to the quiet Opeth pretty guitar moments, and then back again to the abrasion and the Converge styled manic hardcore style. Quite diverse, and ultimately up someone else's alley more than mine, though they're solid, good and still unique even with the companions. (\$10ppd/Immigrant Sur/PO Box 150711/Brooklyn NY 11215) (-Chris)
CONSUME - CONSUME This is a discography of their various 7"s in a great looking digipack fold out spine CD package. This Seattle band plays pummeling and raging crust punk with a galloping style and deep gruff vocals. Having a lot of Consume to listen to lately, I kind thought that there was something about them that was repetitive, that didn't quite take me into my usual manic fervor. But I take it back cause this collection totally rocks. They play with a raging pummeling speed, a drum beat and guitar combo that is hard driving and furious in that crusty punk way, that rages, pummels and rocks in that way, which may be predictable, but that I so love. They fit the classic bill, and might even have some of that "genec 90s crust" sound, but that is actually an all right thing cause they do it right and it rocks. Put your crust fist in the air and let it rock. This contains the s4 7", the Forked Tongue 7", and the tracks from the Hellshock and Resolve splits, plus an ALF comp track. (Insane Society Records/PO Box 6/50101 Hradec Kralove 2/Czech Republic <www.insanesociety.net>) (-Chris)
CRACK - DEMO CASSETTE Atkinson, Illinois? Yeah, there's punks there, at least 2 of them. 1-2-1-2 punk rock that feels more like classic midwestern hardcore than like anything based on current trends. While I imagine that this is by accident, and not design, isn't that exactly how the true classic hardcore bands started? While naturally they (early 80s small town hardcore bands) had resources, they were also trapped in a virtual punk vacuum, and the result was punk with all the aggression and none of the rules. CRACKS has the same feel, there's no one to tell them they can't do something, so they rock it, and the result is 8 songs that would have changed my life had they been from MY town when I was young and fresh. Pretty lo-fi, but punk as fucking shit, and the songs are full of catchy riffs and quirky weirdness. I say they need to get a bass player (the drummer takes care of the bass on the recording) and fucking tour the world...or

topics like guns, fun, and staying young but they also make political statements in songs like "Mencan". A song that almost sounds like Bad Religion. Milo's voice is still as amazing as it ever was. I hope it doesn't take them another 7 years to make another. (fat wreck chords/PO box 193690/San Francisco, CA 94119/www.fatwreck.com) (European)
DESCENDENTS - 'AMERICAN CD: Holy crap! A new Descendents record is coming out this year! When I heard Everything Sucks, I was afraid, well, that it would suck. But it didn't. It was rad. The Descendents have always been one of my favorite bands and as long as it takes for them to put their records out is worth the wait. 'Mencan is a four song teaser for the new record, Cool to Be You, out this summer. I can't wait. The four songs on this ep are about doing nothing, being proud and ashamed of our country, a girl, and being frustrated with making money off of music. The Descendents are rad and I hope they never break up. Milo continues to prove that having a PhD is not synonymous with growing up. Let's hope for a summer tour. Oh yeah, the CD has a bonus track that I could do without. (Fat Wreck Chords, P.O. Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119) -TNT
DESPITE - NO PROMISE OF TOMORROW CD This disconsin band plays heavy with a gnarled style. The vocals are extremely deep and gruff. The guitars pummel and shread with an almost discordant vibration to them. The sound is thick and heavy, yet one of the guitars is higher pitched and raging over top. The extremely deep vocals lean this in a gnrd direction, with the thick throttled sound pushing that way too. I have managed to overlook this band for awhile, so I'm not that familiar with their past releases. This one is good, albeit a bit more grind than I usually go for, but this falls just short of the blast beat mayhem, which is good for me. They pummel the shit out of a drop tuned guitar with totally guttural vocals, while the whole pace of this throbs in a dis-beat style that also goes beyond into a thicker combo of crust-grind-punkcore dis style, and I'm into it. Another crust fist in the air band, with a super fucking heavy style. (Crimes Against Humanity/PO Box 1421/Eau Claire WI 54702) (-Chris)
DIE LAST - MEDICINE CD: Die Last play melodic punk rock with a political slant like if early 90s era Ebulition Records band Leatherface. They are from Poland. As I do not read Polish, I cannot tell you what the lyrics are about, but I'm sure they're about socio-political issues, animals rights, and some personal stuff to make them extra

gnarled when I set down the record, but now I'm just sitting there with a more muted distorted hardcore, the kind of thing that would appeal to those of us who are enjoying the magic of bands like CAREER SUICIDE & FUCKED UP, you know? [Hardcore punk?] Heard of it? Well, this is some of it, and it's good. [Mid-tempo punk with sung/snarled vocals and a dirty feel to the whole recording.] Spite filled lyrics 'bout war, imperialism (and the accompanying xenophobia) and other shit that's lame. [Totally kick ass, I'm at a loss for words so I'll use theirs: "My cold wars have deconstructed we're stockpiling snarled frozen hate" (from "Make Mine A Double SARS"), "I choose not the leaders, the hand that feeds us is only using the middle finger" (from the theme song, every band should have one).] Best record of the month. (Endless Blockades, PO Box 3023, South Brisbane BC, QLD 4101 AUSTRALIA) (-Robert)
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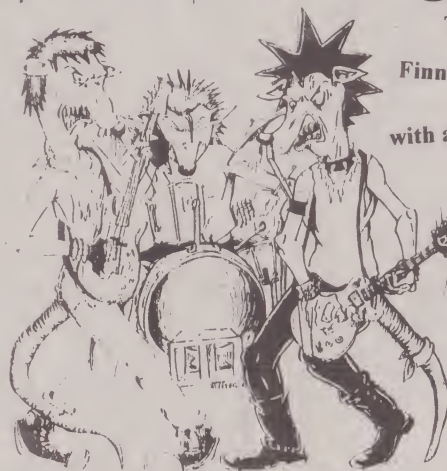
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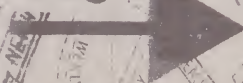
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are all the things great about early CRIMPSHIRE, OP IVY, etc., mixed with street punk hooks and even more sing along choruses. This is catchy almost to a fault, perfect party music. Lyrics range from serious issues affecting the Philippines (most of the songs are sung in Tagalog, the Filipino language) to songs about dinking and hanging out (you know, the good stuff). Sadly, this CD will probably be overlooked by most folks...a shame, as this is a great release. (\$7 ppd from: 127 Missouri Street, Vallejo, CA 94590) (-Robert)

EXIT CONDITION - 1988-1994 I was actually pretty excited to see this discography disk, cause I remember how I first stumbled upon this band in 1989 when I bought their first 7" recording on the Pushead label, and I always thought that Bones was in this band or had some connection to them, which had something to do with why we picked it up I believe. It turns out in reading the liner notes that it was Bones who produced it (ah! I knew there was a connection). Anyway, those songs from the 7" were good, sorta rockin' with sharp clear sing-songy vocals, kinda like the Instigators. Remember it was the late 80s and lots of the punk bands were experimenting with rockin'? Anyway, we were into it too. But I don't think I ever saw any other recordings from this UK band, nor really heard much about them. Of course I like the songs I know the most, but it's cool to hear what they did over the years, even though some of it is only so-so to my ears now as they seem to have gotten more melodic and poppy. Think melodic punk with a good strong drive and rockin' style, and stand out vocals. (Boss Tuneage/PO Box 74/Sandy/Bedfordshire/SG19 2WB UK) (-Chris)

FALL OF THE BASTARDS - DUSK OF AN ANCIENT AGE CD So I have developed this secret love of black metal, although really this is pretty firmly in the death metal world of gnarly vocals and relentless double bass drums and layered guitar leads all over the place. I fucking love it though - for all the elements of gnarl, death, and evil blackness. The extreme dual vocal style of raspy evil and deep, dark and guttural are so extreme that they're awesome. And the musicianship is talented and solid and awesome. I listen to a lot of metal, though my descriptive ability of the various genres are not so good, I only know what I like and I fucking LOVE this. They draw on all the good shit, the crazed layers of guitars both melodic and frantic, weaving and blistering, combined with the assault of drums and the relentless vocals - well I think true metalheads will be impressed, and lovers of punk and metal punk should also be quite pleased. This is one to take notice of. Go Portland! (Intolerant Messiah/PO Box 6162/San Mateo CA 94403) (-Chris) ****

FIGHTING DOGS - 57 CD This is the kind of awesome, ground breaking smart hardcore band that doesn't come along all that often, and when they do they do with a bang. These guys are cool cause they are not easy to describe. They've got a great heavy sound, but also weave in plenty of melodic guitars. Not weaving like the HHG weaving, this is more straight forward, but the harmonic guitar melodies weave and add a lightness to the otherwise throttled heaviness. There is a touch of emo, and some poppy bits, as well as a straight forward hardcore style, that incorporates some of the feeling I have come to associate with This Machine Kills and Bullshit. The vocal style is pretty deep and screamy and the lyrics are great and deal with everything from education (at least one of them is a teacher), labor issues, urban community centers, environment, prisons and cheap labor, socialized healthcare and critics on the current state of America and these issues. The record is fantastic looking with catchy and cool artwork and explanations to go with the lyrics. I was taken with this band when I saw them, as much for their rockin' heavy style, as for all the inspiring words they spoke between songs. This CD is solid, diverse enough, and unique enough to really stand out. This is really awesome! (www.edwaltersrecords.org) (-Chris) ****

FIVE KNUCKLE - BALANCE CD Five Knuckle are one of the most exciting bands I've seen in a while. They blend a wide range of hardcore styles to create one of their own. They remind this reviewer of Death By Stereo and The Refused meet the Minutemen and Black Flag. Their lyrics are intelligent with a firm political stance. Highly recommended. (Household Name Records, P.O. Box 12286, London, SW9 6FE, UK / www.householdnamerecords.co.uk) (-TNT)

FOUR LETTER WORD - CRIMEWAVE 7" This 7", three years in the making, is a follow up to their releases on BYO Records. This Cardiff, Wales Quintet play fairly straight up punk rock. Lyrically they up the punks and give the finger to the pigs and all of that niggard with an intelligent slant that lets the listener know that these guys read books and stuff when their not spiking their hair and drinking. This is definitely worth checking out. All proceeds go to the band to help them get out of legal debt. (Newest Industry Records, Unit 100, 61 Wellfield Rd., Cardiff, CF24 3DG, UK / www.thewestnewindustry.com) (-TNT)

FOAMERS CD This UK band plays it own style of melodic punk. They play fast with break downs of both the ska and hardcore nature. The guitar leads remind me of Iron Maiden at moments but really the band that this record reminds me of the most is Snuff. The vocals are pretty snotty and in punk tradition their lyrics are pish off and calling for change. (house hold name records/PO box 12286/London, SW9 6FE/UK / www.householdnamerecords.co.uk) (european)

FUCKED UP - BEATING THE PUBLIC 7" Weird-as-fuck noisy punk reminding me of the scanniness of FEAR with the same attitude too. Solid punk with a firm middle finger in the air. But next time - I want more than 2 songs! (Deranged Records, PO Box 543 Stn P, Toronto, Ont. M5S-2T1 Canada www.derangedrecords.com) (Dave)

FUCKED UP - EPICS IN MINUTES CD Have you heard the hype surrounding this band? Have you heard people talk about how Toronto's FUCKED UP are going to save punk rock with their brand of Killed By Death style punk rock & roll? Have you heard about the live shows: about the raspy throat scraping vocals and the twin guitar attack delivered through lo-fi amps that sound perfect? Have you heard the hype? If you are like me, then when you first hear FUCKED UP, you will be prepared to hate it, to react against the hoopla and FIND things wrong with them. If you are like me, when you go to see FUCKED UP LIVE, you will stand in the back and prepare your sour face to be sorely disappointed. You will want the infectious rock (and dare I say "groove") to have no effect on you whatsoever, and you will get ready to leave early, baffled at how all of the punk rock little cat get so damn excited over some shitty band.

breakdowns. Gruff vocals over mid-paced punk (there are the occasional fast verses—though those are not the best moments). This record is from 2001, and they have released a CDEP on MCR and a seven inch or two since then...I would start with the newer stuff first, as it's all pretty damn solid. The second song here, "Rage of Today," is excellent, but the rest of this EP leaves me pretty flat. (c/o Toshikaki Kejini, 8-1-39 Sumiyoshiyama Higashinadaku, Kobe JAPAN 658-0063) (-Robert)

HATEWORK - THRASH AND ROLL CD I suppose the title doesn't really leave too much to the imagination, does it? Ommm... "Are your ears bleeding so turn it up again... Alcoholic noise is what we play over & over, over again" from "Italian Drinking Team," the song that opens the disc. Mix MUNICIPAL WASTE with MOTOHEAD and add an extra slice of cheese in the form of the occasional FLOTSAM AND JETSAM inspired guitar solo. Executed to perfection, this would have found a nice home on Medusa 20 years ago. As Karoline is half laughing half cringing in the next room, HATEWORK is growing on me with every song. If the descriptions I gave made you smile, then you will love this. (Beer City, PO Box 26035, Milwaukee, WI 53226) (-Robert)

HIGH ON CRIME - UNTIL NO FLAGS FLY LP Holy fucking shit!! is what I have to say about this. I got my introduction to this Wisconsin band when I saw them play in January and they blew me into the wall with the heavy assault of power and air jumping mania.

This is the kind of heavy that pounds your chest and leaves you breathless, and that gets me carrying on, acting stupid and talking about obsessive fanatical fandom. This band is a hybrid of Artimus Pyle and Seven Days of Samsara. So think of the insane heaviness of the Robert-John Artimus pair (I mean they have that shit down perfect) and then crank it up a notch or two of speed, and dirgey sludge, and then weave the guitars cause now there are two and layer the vocals, cause again their are two, and then throw in some throttled double bass drumming, and you'll be peeing in your pants. This got a "holy fucking fuck" from me when I saw them, left me breathless, clutching my chest and giggling, and dying for the recording which now I have. This shit is hot and I love it!!! (Hungry Ghosts/PO Box 620241/ Middleton WI 53562 <www.hungryghostsrecords.com>) (-Chris) ****

HOLY SHIT! - WHAT THE FUCK? EP A fucking shit mess on these seven inches. Eleven songs of lo-fi chaos...DICKS smoking dust with BLACK FLAG. The MUMMIES having a sandwich with C.O.C.? It's just a fucking mess man, from distortion-free blast beats straight into infectious rock and roll, then crashing face first into jerky stop start madness. It's just a fucking mess...and yes, I know I already mentioned that. "I don't care! don't fucking care! I'm fucking serious! don't care times one million." Oh Yes. Genius. Every bit of it is good...and I wanted to hate it cause the last time I saw them they pissed me off, but it's just too fucking great. Get it. The bass player just got kicked out of his dad's band, so these champs will be poking their heads up more often in the near future...good for us. Side note: I really did not need to see Mr. Apnea's penis on the inner sleeve. Oh well. (c/o Andy Junk, 2658 N. Booth Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212) (-Robert)

I HATE SALLY - SICKNESS OF THE AGES CD This is awesome! It's an interesting combination of hardcore and metal, that incorporates a black metal vocal style, a super thick and pummeling power, along with melodic guitar breakdowns, pummeling double bass drumming, totally aggressive heavy thick and powerful metallic hardcore at it's thickest and an interesting trade off of the black metal vocal style and the hardcore straight forward talking voice. It's different and it works, and the songs are long and if you let your attention wander you might think you're listening to several different bands here. It's also very dark and the lyrics definitely take this to the dark corners of life. While the classical Opeth moments leave me waiting for the rock to kick back up to speed, when it does it's so divine! (Blacula Records/69 Billings Ave./Toronto On M4L 3S5 Canada) (-Chris)

OBJECT - 57 7" This is so fucking punk, it hurts. Okay, it doesn't hurt, it inspires. This band is rad and really embraces all the good shit about DIY punk. I've seen them play and they were so damn good and full of energy and sound punk ideas, full of DIY punk enthusiasm, support and passion. This is a one sided 7" on pink vinyl with "everyone is welcome" painted on the backside. They play a good solid and catchy style of hardcore punk with a rad female singer who has a great voice. This is not the kind of band you can just file and categorize and leave on the shelf. Their inspirations are diverse and their sound shows it. They remind me so much of the early 90s and ABC NO RIO and everything that meant and the diversity of the sounds that came through there when punk was straight forward and gimmick-less. Cross NYC and the East Bay styles of the early 90s. This is a band that spins you up into a frenzy, bounces out some catchy beats and then whips you into a happy circle pit. This is really awesome and I love it!!! (Punk Before Profits/209 Center St./Olean NY 14760) (-Chris) ****

ISHOT CYRUS - THRANUS CD This is the kind of "holy fuck" jaw dropping hardcore that I wait for. The kind of record that makes up for all the shitty records you bought at the store cause they were cool. From the lurching pace of the first song, to the ripping leads in the little track and the chugga riffs (in the crusty style as opposed to the jock HC style) that are heavy in a way that just makes me smile. There are certainly elements that conjure up images of their Brazilian forefathers (but then, these kids did enlist the services of RAIOES DE PORA's drummer, which probably helps in this comparison,

the times, today they would just be punk, but 15 years ago solos were metal, these beats were metal, and bands like IMPULSE MANSLAUGHTER formed a bridge which hessians used to walk from metal-land and discover politically charged DIY hardcore. Album and EP tracks here are delivered with varying sound quality, but when it's good (as with "Sometimes" from the EP of the same name, and "Crimes" from the last LP), man this shit was/is unstoppable. Want to hear what CAPITALIST CASUALTIES listened to when they were finished with the INFEST record? Then listen to these tracks. THEN go back to track number one, and truly appreciate the broken glass in your face intensity of the live set that starts off the disc. (Beer City, PO Box 26035, Milwaukee, WI 53226) (-Robert)

IN ARM'S REACH - 57 7" Fast paced hardcore, with lots of USA-style influence on this Belgian band. 6 songs in 6 1/2 minutes, no solos, no rap lyrics, and pretty decent stuff. I'd be curious to hear them again once they have been around a bit longer & maybe found their own niche. (Anger Management Records, Nijvelsebaan 161, 3060 Korbeek-dijle, Belgium www.am-records.com) (Dave)

IN THE FACE OF COLLAPSE CDR I dislike live recordings especially when it's the first thing a band puts out. I also really dislike CDRs so this band really began on the wrong foot with me from the beginning. They play a kind of mid paced screamo. The recording



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& Prank Fest 6/6/04 Austin, TX

itself is pretty bad and not very fun to listen to especially with all the talking on it but it's cool to see kids from Columbia MD doing stuff. The lyrics are pretty political which I can also get down with. (CO da fantastical haw/313 n. 8th st/Columbia MD 65201/inthefaceofcollapse@planetsave.com) (european)

JACKASS - PLASTIC JESUS CD This record is a fusion of country and rock. They seem to show influences from all over the show from older punk, to straight up country, to bluegrass. They rock out in places and also do the traditional slow country ballads. To enforce country stereotypical types they also have plenty of lyrics about women and broken hearts. People will probably be most interested in their covers of the Back Street Boys and Madonna but I am personally not very interested in the novelty of pop songs being redone in a country style. I really prefer some of their original numbers. (BYO Records/PO Box 67609/LA, CA 90067/www.byorecords.com) (european)

JEFFIE GENETIC AND HIS CLONES - MADE A WAVE CD Wow this record is great. As far as I know it's the first band made up entirely of clones. Not only are they clones but their music is a clone of British new wave punk. This is not a criticism cause they play this style perfectly and their sound is totally catchy and addictive. Synth driven rock never sounded so good. The vocals sound as British as can be which is appropriate as Jeffie and the Clones are Canadians which is still a commonwealth I think. I really like the way the lyrics poke fun at fashion trends and everyone need for a want to tell them how to dress and act. This record is so catchy and upbeat that even when I'm not playing it over and over I'm hearing it in my head. (Ordnaph Records/PO Box 21249/Seattle, WA 98111/www.ordnaph.com) (european)

JESUS AND THE DIVIL - DESTRUCTIVE MUSIC JELISTS THE ONCOMING LIGHT

catchy punk, with a touch of oi's and reggae breakdown, and the strong female vocals are rad. This band is cool—nice booklet, including lyrics etc. (Fire and Flames/ Rote Str. 3/37073 Göttingen/Germany <www.fireandflames.com>) (-Chris)

JOANN RIEDL - RESTLESS CDEP JoAnn plays an acoustic guitar and has a lot to say about politics, the environment, feminism and stuff. The press sheet says "she's too punk for coffee shops and too acoustic for metalheads." Ok. Sounds good to me I respect a girl with a guitar, but I don't think I'll ever listen to this CD again. Maybe if she plays a house show somewhere in town, I'll go see her. Maybe. Check it out if that's your thing. (JoAnn Riedl, P.O. Box 510214, Milwaukee, WI 53203. www.angelfire.com/music5/joannriedl) -TNT

JUDE THE OBSOLETE - THE COLDEST WINTER CD Interesting take on indie-metal. Riff punches to the cabasa rattle the skull and worm their way to the fists causing a pumping action north of the solar plexus. Gnarly warm little breakdowns that get wistfully acoustic at times with clever lyrical content. Hefty, resonant and altogether listenable. (One Day Savior Recordings/www.onedayaviors.com) (-Johnny)

JUGGLING JUGULARS - NOTHING'S FINISHED CD This Finnish punk band has for years been underappreciated internationally it seems to be. I never hear anyone talk about them, and yet each time I hear a new release I think it's awesome. This time around, they sound a lot different - throwing in a 80s new wave simplicity to the sound, and the lead female vocals are complemented with 2 back up vocals, which all layer together uniquely and there is a high-pitched voice that is snotty and unique and reminds me of something like Gang of Four. The vocals here are really a stand out and large part of their sound, but musically this is new wave like, but then again they've got just as much punch and drive as you need to rock it forward and keep you on your toes. Catchy punk rock, indeed with a unique twist that really makes this stand out. (Twisted Chords/Retweg 12/76328 Pflnz/ Germany) (-Chris)

KAKO - OTRO PUTO DIA MAS AGUANTANDO CD Spanish melodic hardcore with an excellent sound and feel. The artwork brings to mind EXCRADORE's records while the sound almost leans on the old Swedish melodies of ASTA KASK and STREBERS. I'm not quite sure if this band is from SPAIN or not, but that areas driving melodic hardcore sound is also easily heard throughout these songs. I really was taken back by how great this is... It's easily one of the best melodic hardcore punk releases I've heard lately and most certainly worth picking up. (Cryptas/apartado postal #16-052 /C.P. 02011 D.F./Mexico) (-JAY)

KARST - VISION OF INSANE HOPE CD This is awesome! Dark, brooding, and demonic sounding, this is thick and layered insanity of unbelievable vocal tracks from the talented and diverse Victoria who can draw on vocal forces in a deep and dark place that is totally insane sounding and intriguing and amazing at the same time. Their whole sound is like that - thick and layered and simply unbelievable. But this is not weird or bizarre or out of control or anything. Karst totally rock and they rock it heavy and hard and solid, but the way they do it is unlike anything else. The thick and heavy power is beautiful, and the diverse vocals that evil and angelic, dark and light, high and low, heavy and unreal at the same. Stylistically Karst pick up very much where Damad left off, which is no surprise since this is the Victoria and Scott carrying on vocal duties and drums. This is amazing! I totally love it through and through. The punk rock comes through but so does something totally different and new. The layered complexities, the heavy brooding darkness, and the ultimate metallic power of an unbelievable rockin' groove, complemented with the multi-ranging vocal patterns make this amazing all around! Fuck yeah! (Hater of God/PO Box 666/Troy NY 12181 <www.haterofgod.com>) (-Chris) ****

KILL ME TOMORROW - THE GARBAGE MAN AND THE PROSTITUTE CD DVD Well, this is pretty horrible. Think of an electronic Velvet Underground meets The Locust. Not my thing at all. However, this CD comes with a DVD with four videos from the album. They are of superior quality for a band on a label this small. My favorite is the flash animated video for "Flesh Siren." It has dancing rats and cans of pickles. I think it's really pretentious drivel. There's a forthcoming novel coming out to correspond with the album. There's a fine line between experimental and innovative and just weird. (GSL, P.O. Box 65091, Los Angeles, CA 90065) -TNT

KILL YOUR IDOLS - LIVE AT CBGB'S CD I think this already came out on Creep Records in the USA, but I may be mistaken. Anyways, this is a 16-track set by one of my favorite bands recorded at the legendary CB's in NYC in 2000. In 8 years KYI have put out more records than even I (a longtime fan) can seem to keep track of. KYI play through all of their standard live stuff, as well as a Sheer Terror cover tune. I am not a big fan of many live releases, but found myself giving this repeated spins. Not a "must have", but still good for the KYI completist out there. (Ass Card Records. Annenr. 5. 44137 Dortmund, Germany www.asscardrecords.com) (Dave)

KYLESA - NO ENDING/ A 100 HEAT INDEX CDEP Kyleisa have come into their own with their own sound that defies comparisons at this point. This CD version (also available as a 7") has four songs, one of which is a Nausea cover of Clutch's, which is amazing. They have further developed their sound, of thick heavy power, and weaving discordance and technical musicianship, with layered multiple vocals. On one hand I'd say they've incorporated a lot more technical precision than straight forward heavy rock, but that's Kyleisa, a combination of the two, and even the parts here that I was initially less into, grew on me with incredible hooks of heavy power and a swooning style. A 100 Heat Index has a slow dirgey oddness to it, but the dual vocal delivery which is much more straight forward and less screamy has been one of the catchy things that stays stuck in my head for days and months because of that dirginess that is just so unique, and the harmonic hook gets under my skin. Kyleisa are masters of all that they do. And the more you listen closely, and the more opportunities to see they play live, the more you are blown away and can really appreciate them. I sure do. Great Pushead artwork on the cover of this one as well. (Prank/PO Box 410892/SF CA 94141-0892 <www.prankrecords.com>) (-Chris)

LAST WORDS - ISOLATION EP CD I had the pleasure of seeing this CD band at one of the pre-shows at the Prank Fest in Austin this summer, and they rocked it. They play an influential influenced style of hardcore with gruff vocals, a powerful delivery and midrange guitars weaving all over the place, a drop tuned throbbing power with some Sr. and HC guitar style peeking through, while the drums and bass are power

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Le SCRAWL - FAGER TO PLEASE CD Bizarre loungecore grind, as if that statement isn't bizarre enough itself. Here Le SCRAWL continues to mix Grindcore with Jazz and other laidback sounds, creating a quirky feel that's definitely unique. If you're looking for something off the beaten path, and are ready to have a good time with it, here you go. (Life Is Abuse/po box 20524/Oakland, CA 94620/USA) (-JAY)

Belgium's am-recs records, (Dave)
IN THE FACE OF COLLAPSE CD I dislike live recordings especially when it's the first thing a band puts out. I also really dislike CDRs so this band really began on the wrong foot with me from the beginning. They play a kind of mid placed screamo. The recording itself is pretty bad and not very fun to listen to especially with all the talking on it but it's cool to see kids from Columbia MD doing stuff. The lyrics are pretty political which I can also get down with. (CO das fantastical haus/313 n. 8th st/ Columbia MD 65201/inthefaceofcollapse@planetave.com) (europian)

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JEFFIE GENETIC AND HIS CLONES - NEED A WAVE CD Wow this record is great. As far as I know it's the first band made up entirely of clones. Not a joke they clones but their music is a clone of British new wave punk. This is not a criticism cause they play this style perfectly and their sound is totally catchy and addictive. Synth driven rock never sounded so good. The vocals sound as British as can be which is appropriate as Jeffie and the Clones are Canadians which is still a commonplace I think. I really like the way the lyrics poke fun at fashion trends and everyone need for a wave to tell them how to dress and act. This record is so catchy and upbeat that even when I'm not playing it over and over I'm hearing it in my head. (Dirtmap Records/PO box 21249/Seattle, WA 98111/www.dirtmap.com) (europian)

JESUS AND THE DEVIL - DESTRUCTIVE MUSIC RESISTS THE ONCOMING LIGHT CDEP: According to the press release, this sounds like The Stooges and At the Drive-In and sometimes like Fugazi. It's certainly garagey rock n' roll. I like Chicago. They are from Chicago. If you like Murder City Devils, check this out. It's ok, but I'd really rather go nde bikes. (Fudge Sickle Records, P.O. Box 7052, Villa Park, IL 60181) -TNT

JEUNESSE APATRIE - BLACK BLOCK N' ROLL CD This is cool melodic punk with crystal clear and strong female vocals. This Montreal band takes a strong anti-fascist stance and has a general class warfare platform to their lyrics. Listening to this doesn't really make me think about skin heads or Oi, but they've got a few of 'em in their songs and support RASH and make this a big part of their message. I like that this is straight forward



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FOAMERS CD This UK band plays its own style of melodic punk. They play fast with break downs of both the ska and hardcore nature. The guitar leads remind me of Iron Maiden at moments but really the band that this record reminds me of the most is Snuff. The vocals are pretty snotty and in punk tradition their lyrics are plist off and calling for change. (house hold name records/PO box 12286/London, SW9 6FE/UK/www.householdnamerecords.co.uk) (european)

FUCKED UP - BAITING THE PUBLIC 7" Weird-as-fuck noisy punk reminding me of the scariest of FEAR with the same attitude too. Solid punk with a firm middle finger in the air. But next time - I want more than 2 songs! (Deranged Records, PO Box 543 Stn.P, Toronto, Ont. M5S-2T1 Canada www.derangedrecords.com) (Dave)

FUCKED UP - EPICS IN MINUTES CD Have you heard the hype surrounding this band? Have you heard people talk about how Toronto's FUCKED UP are going to save punk rock with their brand of Killed By Death style punk rock & roll? Have you heard about the live shows, about the raspy throat scraping vocals and the twin guitar attack delivered through lo-fi amps that sound perfect? Have you heard the hype? If you are like me, then when you first hear FUCKED UP, you will be prepared to hate it, to react against the hoopla and FIND things wrong with them. If you are like me, when you go to see FUCKED UP LIVE, you will stand in the back and prepare your sour face to be sorely disappointed. You will want the infectious rock (and dare I say "groove"? to have no effect on you whatsoever, and you will get ready to leave early, baffled at how all of the punk rock elite can get so damn excited over some shitty band from Toronto. But if you are like me, then after two songs, you will be up front, covered in sweat rocking out like an idiot. And if you are like me, then soon even the horns at the end of the "Baiting The Public" EP will sound fucking perfect, and you will tell everyone how this is the band that is going to save punk rock. And if you were turned off by the 2 song Eps (as I was), then you're in luck, as all 5 singles are included here along with demo tracks and another gem or two. The urgency of early BLACK FLAG mixed with the songwriting sensibilities of Belgium's THE KIDS. Yeah, I lied, but FUCKED UP are just too good. (www.derangedrecords.com) (-Robert)

HATE NO. 3 - CRUCIFIED EP A strange mix of street punk sounds and youth crew

(Canada) (-Chris)
LOBBEY - 5/17" This is so fucking punk, it hurts. Okay, it doesn't, it inspires. This band is rad and really embraces all the good shit about DIY punk. I've seen them play and they were so damn good and full of energy and sound punk ideas, full of DIY punk enthusiasm, support and passion. This is a one sided 7" on pink vinyl with "everyone is welcome" painted on the backside. They play a good solid and catchy style of hardcore punk with a rad female singer who has a great voice. This is not the kind of band you can just file and categorize and leave on the shelf. Their inspirations are diverse and their sound shows it. They remind me so much of the early 90s and ABC NO RIO and everything that meant and the diversity of the sounds that came through there when punk was straight forward and gimmick-less. Cross NYC and the East Bay styles of the early 90s. This is a band that spins you up into a frenzy, bounces out some catchy beats and then whirls you into a happy circle pit. This is really awesome and I love it!!! (Punk Before Profits/209 Center St/Olean NY 14760) (-Chris) ****

SHOT CYRUS - TIRANUS CD This is the kind of "holy fuck" jaw dropping hardcore that I wait for. The kind of record that makes up for all the shitty records you bought at the store cause they were cool. From the lurching pace of the first song, to the ripping leads in the title track and the chugga riffs (in the crust style as opposed to the jock HC style) that are heavy in a way that just makes me smile. There are certainly elements that conjure up images of their Brazilian forefathers (but then, these kids did enlist the services of RATOS DE PORAO's drummer, which probably helps in this comparison, and there are moments that remind me a lot of RDP's Bras/LP), but there is just as much US style in your face hardcore thrash, and I SHOT CYRUS throw more of their own style in to the mix than most bands take the time to. Tons of leads without turning into a crossover rehash, tons of mid tempo crushing parts without ever falling into the generic crust trap, and chaos on the drums without ever stopping the rock. Essential. (625) (-Robert)

IMPULSE MANS LAUGHTER - LIVE AT WFMU CD Why was this disc sequenced with the live material first? Buy this, start with track 18, and get bowled over by one of the midwest's most overlooked crossover hardcore bands. "Crossover" only because of

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MUSIC

LEATHERFACE - DOG DISCO CD A new album from one of my favorite bands of all time. I really never checked them out since they got back together as I've also been terrified of punk reunion efforts. Frankie's Subb's voice is definitely raspier and more worn but the magic is still there to a degree. Leatherface can still make beautiful and melodic punk songs that sound in no way cheesy. Overall this album is good but it is by no means on the level that their older material like Mush is on. The songs here just aren't as anthemic and I can't imagine them being as timeless as songs like "Springtime." But I honestly would have never imagined a reunited Leatherface being this good before listening to the record. Frankie's voice gives the music a soulful and haunting quality that could make almost any songs sound great. Another small complaint would be that this record has some of the worst cover art I've seen in a while. (BYO Records/ PO Box 67609/ LA, CA 90067/ www.byorecords.com) (European)

LET'S GROW - YEARS BETWEEN GATHERINGS EP US styled hardcore/thrash/youth crew hyund from Belgrade. The youth crew only comes out in the breakdowns (which appear in every song), but are some of the highlights on the record. When they are fast, LET'S GROW are almost a blur, but the riffs don't get lost in the mix, and the vocals are shouted and stuttered sporadically (the vocal delivery reminds me of a band I used to be in, but can I use that as a reference without coming off like a putz? (don't think so). Lots of stop/starts and guitar breaks that keep you guessing, while not straying out of the formula. 625 doesn't really release too many stinkers, huh? (625, PO Box 423413, San Francisco, CA 94142) (-Robert)

LIFE SET STRUGGLE - 51 EP Skate core. A generic term, yes, but so appropriate, LSS are fast/mid tempo (like in the rock and roll sense) punk fucking rock, with nods to NEGATIVE APPROACH (especially on "Get Over It") and some of the hooks you might find on a NAKED RAYGUN record. I realize those are some hefty references, and while LSS may not reach those heights, I flip the record over for my second listen thinking that, under the right circumstances.... well, anyway. Far more hardcore punk, and less raging thrash than you might expect on 625... that's a good thing in this case. (625, PO Box 423413, San Francisco, CA 94142) (-Robert)

M.D.C. - NOW MORE THAN EVER CD This CD came out a few years ago, I believe. Seeing as how this is my third review of MDC music I've done in two issues, I think I have a handle on a description for you Slugheads. Straight-ahead, mid-tempo punk, with the vocals prominent in the mix, to prominently display the biting, satirical wit, of Dave Dictor's assault on the state, church, and social norms. Crass, trail-blasting anarcho-punk, inspired so many bands in the years to come. Like most, they kinda went downhill after a few years, and you'll notice a slight drop in quality in this CD, but not an excruciating slide, like so many other 80's U.S. hardcore bands. The early releases have been floating around on vinyl as of late, so you may want to skip this CD and seek out the 1st album on vinyl. But this is a starting point. (-Andy) I think this is a re-issue of the older material, since most of the songs here are older tunes from their heyday, but it could be a bunch of re-recordings... who knows? It doesn't say either way on the CD booklet, and since the sound quality is all pretty consistent - I am gonna go with the idea that they re-recorded everything, but don't blame me if I am wrong. 31 tracks total, including the always humorous "John Wayne Was A Nazi" that was originally recorded when they were still called The Stains. (Dave) (Beer City Records/P.O. Box 26035/Milwaukee, WI 53226/www.beercityrecords.com)

MACHINE GUN ROMANTICS - 51 EP Elements of thrash, grind and powerpop/alt all abound on this 11 song EP. There's more shit here than you'll find on most full length records, every song is so chock full of time changes and "what the fuck was that?" parts that it took me a few listens for it all to sink in. And with those listens I liked it more and more....think SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, but more punk than grind. The sound is near perfect, and the playing is flawless. The vocals are more shrieked than growled, and there is some of the best blasting I've heard in a long time (and, more importantly, the blast is not overused). I know 625 puts out a shit-ton of records, and it can be hard to keep track, but this one is worth your time. (oh yeah, they don't have a bass player, and they don't need one) (625, PO Box 423413, San Francisco, CA 94142) (-Robert)

MUGA - 51 EP Holy fucking shit, this is my new favorite band since Hellschok, which means I'm going to be carrying on about Muga relentlessly. Funny that the first time I heard the name recently was that they have played in Portland w/ Hellschok and Tragedy, and then a few days later this arrived, I put it on and my new favorite obsession was realized. This is totally fucking amazing, a perfect record, and one that I will be listening to inside and out for months to come until I get the chance to see them myself. This starts out with an epic intro, and then bursts forth with Japanese hardcore thrash. They weave together blistering and pummeling heavy hardcore style with a totally epic, monumental and triumphant swooning style that is utter perfection. There is a whole lot of Tragedy influence, and I would actually say that Muga is like a cross between Tragedy and Crow, which is pretty fucking hot. The heaviness is brooding, the weaving melodic guitars drive forth, the drums pummel with frantic energy and a throbbing power, and I swear that their are dual male/female vocals. It sounds that way, and whether it's two guys, or a guy and a girl, it sounds awesome and it's a new dynamic to the sound which only makes it better. The whole album leaves me breathless and going back for more. While I can hear parts that could be lifted straight out of a Tragedy song, I also know that Muga are taking their influences from the same places that Tragedy do, and while the companions are inevitable, if you like the sound and style - then this will leave you as stoked as I am. It's truly divine and I will rage and carry on and talk this shit up like never before, cause when I'm stoked, I'm stoked. And Muga fucking rule!!!! almost can't breathe, gasp, gasp!!!! (Putrid Filth Conspiracy/ Box 7092/ 2042 Malmo/ Sweden (www.putridfilth.com)) (-Chris) *****

MUMBLER - THE WINTER OF OUR DISCONTENT 7" Low fi pop punk with awesome heartfelt lyrics about failed travels, cold cities, and depression. The production on this is perfect for the style of punk they play. It really gives this record an old school feel. (www.putridfilth.com) (-Chris) *****

are a political punk band from North Carolina. Musically, they remind me of a sloppy Ramones meets a sloppy Dead Kennedys. The lyrics are mostly about The Patriot Act, frustration with Internet message boards, and voting. I am surprised to hear this style music accompanied by these lyrics these days. Musically simple, lyrically intelligent (Suicide Watch Records, P.O. Box 9599, Charlotte, NC 28299 / www.mysocalledband.com) (-TNT)

NAUSEA - THE PUNK TERRORIST ANTHOLOGY VOL. 1 LP Nausea are the best political crust band from NYC in the early 90s, and their importance and essentialness has not wavered in 15 years. The CD collection of all their stuff by the same title came out last year and it was awesome, and one of those essential to have releases. Now the vinyl version is available from Helibent Records and the copy I got has a silkscreened (in hot pink) cover on canvas with a pin. It's #96 out of a 100, so I'm sure that it's not even available anymore if they really only made 100 copies. I would assume though that this has been pressed on vinyl with a printed cover and that these special ones were just the 1st 100. I wish that the first 100 also have the printed cover, cause while the canvas is cool, it's missing the photos and some of what I would expect for a double LP. Anyway, Nausea fucking rule and if you're a vinyl purist and the CD version wasn't enough for you check with these sites to see if you can get a copy. (www.helibentrecords.com / www.auseapunk.com) (-Chris)

NO CHOICE - DRY RIVER FISHING CD

This Welsh punk band formed over 20 years ago yet somehow I never heard of them before now. They play melodic punk with political yet not simplistic lyrics. Their sound is reminiscent of bands like Leatherface and maybe Bad Religion but with a healthy dose of older UK peace punk. Although all these influences are older bands and they themselves are pretty damn old their sound is actually quite fresh. I'm totally happy to have discovered this band and I really wonder if they sounded the same back in 1981. (No Idea/PO box 14636/Gainesville, FL 32604/ www.noidearecords.com) (European)

NO MORE FEAR - ONE THING WE'LL SHARE 7" By the numbers youth crew hardcore from Italy, with all of the required topics covered: compassion, caring, and sharing. The New Order cover was the most notable though, since they gave it a tougher sound - rather than simply covering it. The layout is a let-down too, in that it is just boring & generic. (Goodwill Records, C.P. 15319, 00143 Roma Laurentino, Italy) (Dave)

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ODIO - DOOMSDAY CASSETTE Grind punk from Mexico. Growing guttural vocals (mixed with occasional snarls) and pounding drums, and then there are the lo fi guitars that bring to mind classic Mexican punk. The similarities to MASSACRE 68 do not end with their country of origin, and the pro cassette release fits the style perfectly. There are moments of melody, which prevent monotony, and makes the tape a better listen as a whole than track by track. (honestly, the first song is among the worst, but the last song on side 1 is amazing) There is some great stuff going on in Mexico. (Reaciona co Fernando Lozano, Apdo. Postal 1946, C.P. 64001 Monterrey, N.L. MEXICO) (-Robert)

ONE LINE DRAWING - THE VOLUNTEERS CD This is the most exciting CD this guy has made since the Far record. Jonah Matanga's been doing that whole sensitive guy with a guitar thing longer than most of the people doing it these days. I've always thought his lyrics were pretty sincere and meaningful, but his music was always a little too, uh, sensitive, for my ears. The four songs on the sampler for this album leave me wanting more, though. He gets touch on some songs. It's amazing. He still has the weird electric noises, like the R2-D2 and all that. For the fans of his previous efforts, there are still a few sensitive tracks for you to shed a tear to. I prefer the rock songs to walk the pups

their own style, keeping them from sounding like a bad clone. Even if I can't figure out everything they are singing, they are still good at what they are doing here. (Refuse Records, PO Box 7, 02-792 Warszawa 78, Poland www.refuserecords.prv.pl) (Dave)

OPRESSED LOGIC - ONE'S THAT CONTROL CD Opening with a sound clip from "Suburbia" is a bold move but you can get away with it if you rock as hard as D.L. does. At times it is reminiscent of Minus and Duane Peters which is o.k. by me. Very old school Cali-Core. Me like you very much so. (BLAZING GUNS Records/ PO Box 40236/ Downey, CA, 90239) (-Johnny)

OUT OF REACH - NEVERENDING CD OoR are the Italian version of Face to Face. They are also the Italian version of BoySetFire. They are also the Italian version of The Get Up Kids. These guys are pretty tight and they have these Snapcase brand harmonics down to a T. Man, I could really go for some paghetts. Who wants paghetts? Italians are lucky enough to get all of those bands for the price of one. Pretty good deal. (Goodwill Records, C.P. 15319, 00143 Roma Laurentino, Italy) (-TNT)

OUTLIE - COMPANIONSTO DEVILS AND SAINTS CD This is the new band from the guitarist of Good Riddance. It's much more new metal than punk. It's very melodic and has a big metal influence. It's sounds like something I might hear on a "new" rock radio station as it's way produced and never really aggressive or confrontational. (porterhouse records/ po box 3597/ hollywood, ca 92008/ porterinfo@earthlink.net) (European)

P-NISSARNA - FLUMPUNGAR CD Fun, energetic early Swedish punk. This is quite a collection, compiling their elusive recordings from 1979 to 1982 with 4 songs from later members short-lived band KANON. P-NISSARNA had all the melody and catchiness of Sweden's early punk best, and this CD does a great job documenting it. Essential for fans of punk, RUDE KIDS & THE SEX PISTOLS... (Swedish Punk Classics/ box 6294/ 400 60 Gothenburg/ Sweden) (-JAY)

P1RX (P1RX) - FAMOUS IN 47 STATES CD This SF band plays a totally unique style of their own distinct breed of catchy punk with stand out dual male and female vocals. Musically this is simple and super catchy, in a kind of poppy kind of way. The vocals stand out so much, and the lyrics are smart, creating choruses and harmonies and making it rock. If I had not been following this band for years, I might not be as sold on this kind of mature and slightly less "punk" release, but since I have been listening to them for years, I still am taken with their style. It's kind of X like. I defer the more upbeat rock tunes. (New Disorder Records/ 115 Bartlett St/ SF CA 94110 <www.newdisorder.com>) (-Chris)

POINTING FINGER - BEST BRUISES COLLECTION CD As the title eludes to, this is a collection of their four vinyl-only releases on one CD. I have never really been into this band, since I just couldn't get past the blatant 88-era worship visually (the Gonna Biscuits styled arms out at the crowd on this CD as more proof), and the music really fails to break any ground for me either. I am just not really into how much visual-importance plays with this band, as it seems the live photos are almost posed for purposely to look like old Revelation bands? The music is well recorded for the most part, but doesn't really go anywhere. There is a GB cover song at the end to close out this disc... (Goodwill Records, C.P. 15319, 00143 Roma Laurentino, Italy www.goodwillrecords.net) (Dave)

POISON IDEA - FEEL THE DARKNESS LP This is a classic from the true "kings of punk"! Poison Idea for years have been the masters of hardcore punk, and this is their best album in my opinion, one of those crucial albums that every punk has got to have. This came out around 1990, and when it did it had a bunch of photos I took when I got to see them, but the photos are on the CD, not this LP. I've known this album inside and out for years and years, and it never gets old. Pummeling punk rock, driven by a frantic tight drumbeats, rocking guitars, and Jerry A on the vocals. Pummeling with rage, while also being catchy as shit. I'm telling you this is a classic of the kings of punk at their best. If you lost your copy or never had it, whatever the case, you have no excuse. This is mandatory. Absolutely essential for the punk collection!!!! (US Distribution by Havoc/PO Box 8585/ Mpls MN 55408/ Farewell Records/ Micha Meyer/ PO Box 100205/ 47002 Duisburg Germany) (-Chris)

PONTIUS PILATE - THY KINGDOM COM 7" Manic thrashing heavy gnndcore from Portland OR. A thick muddy sound of sludge, and an epic rockin' guitar sound that is

Terro/4507 NGantenben St/Portland OR 97217 <audioteorist13@yahoo.com>) (-Chris)

RAG MEN - 51 CD Though only 8 songs, it gets down to business early. With the singer of crossover kings Merauder, as well as members of Madball & Earth Crisis, you know what you are getting here: a New York Hardcore record jam-packed with hard danceparts that will have the kids ducking for cover from flailing fists & feet. Tough, but with a real introspective lyrical style, on top of quite metallic music. I think they may have just broken up, so this may be the only document of their existence now. (Eulogy Recordings, P.O. Box 24913, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307 www.eulogyrecordings.com) (Dave)

RAT BASTARDS - 51 EP Hardcore that flirts with elements of European crust, D-Beat mania and classic american punk. Imagine DEFENCE smoking mad crack with the singer from VICTIMS? Great breaks (and breakdowns) and fist banging mania abounds... RAT BASTARDS don't wow you with their crushing power, they just rock your fucking ass off. (Kangaroo, Middenweg 13, 1098 AA Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS) (-Robert)

REGULATIONS - DESTROY 7" It's kind of interesting to me to see the trend of thrash hardcore kids getting into the clean and simple punk rock style of the early 80s. But really it's not all that strange, cause this is the roots they're going back to. And even to look at the band photo, I wondered if this was actually so re-discovered long lost classic from 1981. But nope, this is current Swedish rockers, playing a non-distorted style of punk rock, with bare bones clean rockin' guitar style, and a catchy energy that is totally inspired by late 70s and early 80s US punk. So I guess it makes sense that members of ETA were inspired to do this kind of retro band while on their bud US tour. Anyway, it works, and they rock. (Busted Heads/Space Mail Box 046/ Rensmiedsgatan 28/116 31 Stockholm Sweden <www.bustedheads.com>) (-Chris)

RIGHTEOUS JAMS - 2003 DEMO 7" This band has dudes from the short-lived band Invasion, and play a similar style of Boston/NYC hardcore, but RJ have managed to play more than 3 shows (unlike Invasion). I think the line-up has changed a bit since this demo came out last year, but either way - this band is GREAT! Super moshy, simple direct lyrics, and good recording for a demo. I am excited to hear the new full length coming out too! (Anger Management Records, Nijvelsebaan 161, 3060 Korbeek-dijle, Belgium www.am-records.com) (Dave)

RNR - THE INFAMOUS AND NOTORIOUS CD Wowzers! RNR deliver the goods from start-to-finish on this debut full length! No tissue-grabbing anthems of girlfriends lost or anything like that - instead it is a powerhouse of mad-as-hell Boston hardcore. The occasional rock riffage only adds to the onslaught, instead of just rehashing the same three chords. I love the layout too, and am surprised it took so long for a hc band to do the whole sepia-old-style gang photo-thing. I only wish there were more than 10 songs... but you can't always get what you want, right? (Manic Ride Records, PO Box 42593, Philadelphia, PA 19101 www.manicriderecords.com) (Dave)

ROUGH - INDELEBILE CD Since there was hardly anything written in English, I had a hard-time figuring much out about this release. It seems that they were a Italian Oi band that was around from 1981-84, and this appears to be a discography of their recorded works. I have no idea what they are singing about in most of the songs, which range from upbeat 45kins style, then at times go for a even faster street punk pace, all packed with big singalong choruses & mostly simple beats. Interesting stuff, but I wish I knew more while listening to it, so I'd have more to say about them. The sound quality is quite flat in some places, but since it is 20+ years old, it is not something I can really hold against them. Since I doubt many skinheads had access to any top notch studios back then. (Oi Strike/ SOA Records, Paolo Petralia Via Odesi Da Gubbio 67/69, 00416 Roma Italy <www.soarecords.it>) (Dave)

SANDMAN - THE LONG WALK HOME CD Sandman plays folksy balls from a long tradition of traveling singer songwriters. He mox's his lyrics with old sensibilities and modern subject matter. The music ranges from acoustic to electric to just his voice. Some songs have more instruments as well. All the songs are pretty sad and definitely very slow. (crimethinc/ po box 1963/ Olympia WA 98507. www.crimethinc.com) (European)

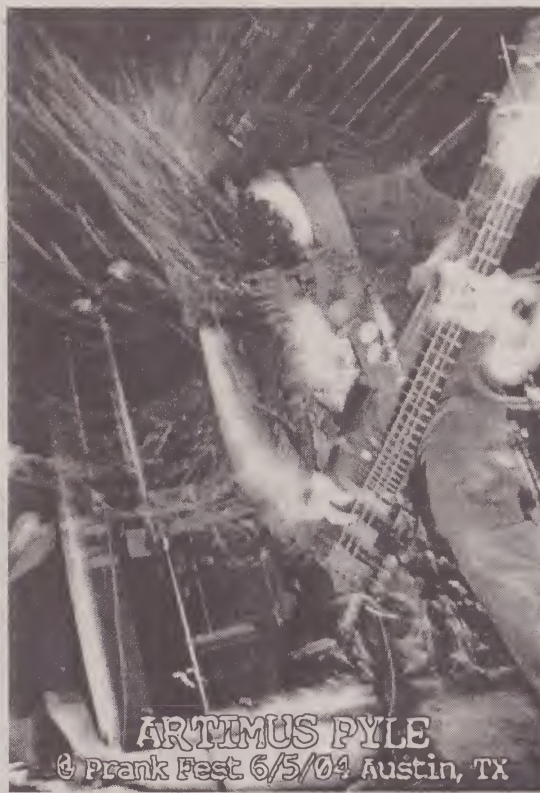
SEGUE - 10" This band is weird, and almost too weird for me, but always still totally intriguing. It's discordant and manic, but then they have a violin or cello, and epic singing female vocalization, over top of gruff deep vocals, and a throttled thick chaotic musical style. There are no lyrics - they free form interpret them - perhaps they are just voice utterances, who knows. It ends up being somewhat artsy or tribal, and interpretive with a technical style, which is why I say weird. They are from Mpls, and they are heavy, but also chaotic, and grating. (\$10ppd/Fight For Your Mind/ 47, Avenue Gilbert Roux/ 03300 Cussey/France) (-Chris)

SEX POSITIONS - 51 CD Energizing, hip wiggling hardcore pandemonium in the style of Blood Bros. & The Locust. Nastily noisy and Black Flagish on some songs. These guys are probably all over the stage when they play live. I liked this as well for the electronic weirdness and subtle new waveness. So hot, they melted the ice in my Mountain Dew. (DEATHWISH Records/ www.deathwishinc.com) (-Johnny)

SICK TERROR - VIDA MEDIOCRE 7" Hyperspeed thrash from Brazil. In the recent past they have incorporated electronic noise into their sound, but this is going back to relying on pure speed, and that's definitely what they do best. This raises. Every song blasts by screaming while you take a breath to notice HERSEY and RISTEYTTY tunes. Awesome. (Undislessed/ BP 515/ 33001 Bordeaux Cedex/France) (-JAY)

SICKNESS - JUST SHIT 7" Mid-90's style criscore in the vein of DOOM or HIATUS. This their most recent release and 2nd 7" ep. They do the style well and even pull off a cover of "War Crimes" Excellent crust. (Chaotic Noise / email: dbeatbastard@yahoo.com) (-JAY)

SIGNAL LOST - CHILDREN OF A WASTELAND LP CD After a popular demo, this Austin, TX outfit comes storming out the gate with a powerful, intensely unique full length. Mid-tempo, melodic, catchy punk rock, with off the chart female vocals, cranked way up in the mix. More singing than screaming, but still PISSed OFF. Don't let the "melodic" description scare you off: this is NOT Pop punk, but simply straight ahead, a bit of old school sounding punk with a kick. Clean, quality recording, which brings out the best aspects of their song writing. Lyrics dealing with alienation, dissatisfaction, general "out of step" topics. This band brings a lot of others to mind.



while LSS may not reach those heights, I tip the record over for my section thinking that, under the right circumstances.... well, anyway. Far more hardcore punk, and less grungy thrash than you might expect on 625...that's a good thing in this case. (625, PO Box 423413, San Francisco, CA 94142) (-Robert)

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MUMBLER - THE WINTER OF OUR DISCONTENT 7" Low fi pop punk with awesome heartfelt lyrics about failed travels, cold cities, and depression. The production on this is perfect for the style of punk they play. It really gives this record an old school pop punk feel ala Crimpshrine rather than the overproduced radio sound that is so popular today. (Salinas records/PO box 20998/Femdale, MI 48220) (europian)

MY FAVORITE CHORD - ROMANCE IS DEAD CD Really screamy emo with too much of the same ol' pissed-but-passionate rock that just never did anything for me. I am just not sappy enough to "get it" I guess. (Ass Card Records, Annenstr. 5, 44137 Dortmund, Germany www.asscardrecords.com) (Dave)

MY SO-CALLED BAND - WEAPONS OF MASS DISTORTION CD My So-Called Band

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ONLY WAY OUT - S/T 7" The one thing I really like about this is that they avoid a mistake many foreign bands make when writing their songs: these guys actually sing in their own language. It is easy to write a sex hardcore song, that is a well known fact, but it isn't as easy to make one that is actually interesting & good. Instead of trying to write lyrics that simply copy their favorite hardcore bands previous efforts, they sing the songs in



great job of capturing a lot of the... (No Idea/PO box 14636/Gainesville, FL 32604/www.noidearecords.com) (europian)

PIBX THE PILOT - FAMOUS IN 47 STATES CD This SF band plays a totally unique style of their own distinct breed of catchy punk with stand out dual male and female vocals. Musically this is simple and super catchy, in a kind of poppy kind of way. The vocals stand out so much, and the lyrics are smart, creating choruses and harmonies and making it rock. If I had not been following this band for years, I might not be as sold on this kind of mature and slightly less "punk" release, but since I have been listening to them for years, I still am taken with their style. It's kind of X like. I def. prefer the more upbeat rockin' tunes. (New Disorder Records/115 Bartlett St/SF CA 94110 <www.newdisorder.com>) (-Chris)

POINTING FINGER - BEST BRUISES COLLECTION CD As the title eludes to, this is a collection of their four vinyl-only releases on one CD. I have never really been into this band, since I just couldn't get past the blatant 88-era worship visually (the Gorilla Biscuits styled arms out at the crowd on this CD as more proof), and the music really fails to break any ground for me either. I am just not really into how much visual-importance plays with this band, as it seems the live photos are almost posed for purposely to look like old Revelation bands!! The music is well recorded for the most part, but doesn't really go anywhere. There is a GB cover song at the end to close out this disc... (Goodwill Records, C.P. 15319, 00143 Roma Laurentino, Italy www.goodwillrecords.net) (Dave)

POISON IDEA - FEEL THE DARKNESS LP This is a classic from the true "kings of punk"! Poison Idea for years have been the masters of hardcore punk, and this is their best album in my opinion, one of those crucial albums that every punk has got to have. This came out around 1990, and when it did it had a bunch of photos I took when I got to see them, but the photos are on the CD, not this LP. I've known this album inside and out for years and years, and it never gets old. Pummeling punk rock, driven by a frantic light drumbeats, rocking guitars, and Jerry A on the vocals. Pummeling with rage, while also being catchy as shit. I'm telling you this is a classic of the kings of punk at their best. If you lost your copy or never had it, whatever the case, you have no excuse. This is mandatory. Absolutely essential for the punk collection!!! (US Distribution by Havo/PO Box 8585/Mpls MN 55408/Farewell Records/Micha Meyer/PO Box 100205/47002 Duisburg Germany) (-Chris)

PONTIUS PILATE - THY KINGDOM COM 7" Manic thrashing heavy grindcore from Portland OR. A thick muddy sound of sludge, and an epic rockin' guitar sound that is triumphant, and that is where I got hooked. Harsh screamy vocals trade off with the gruffer deeper voice. I like the guitar in a bubble sound and the touch of violin, that creates a harmonic quality hereto the otherwise blistering assault of crust punk. But somehow when PP burst forth with the attack, I still find myself stoked, when ordinarily I don't dig that kind of style, they pull it all together in a way that shreds and captivates me, which is almost hard to do these days. In other words they do it right, and they rock, with enough originality to stand out and that is cool. This is a great release. (New Audio

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ROUGH - INDELEBILE CD Since there was hardly anything written in English, I had a hard-time figuring much out about this release. It seems that they were a Italian Oi band that was around from 1981-84, and this appears to be a discography of their recorded works. I have no idea what they are singing about in most of the songs, which range from upbeat 4Skns style, then at times go for a even faster street punk pace, all packed with big singalong choruses & mostly simple beats. Interesting stuff, but I wish I knew more while listening to it, so I'd have more to say about them. The sound quality is quite flat in some places, but since it is 20+ years old, it is not something I can really hold against them, since I doubt many skinheads had access to any top notch studios back then. (Oi Strike/50A Records, Paolo Petralia Via Odesisi Da Gubbio 67/69, 00416 Roma Italy <www.soarecords.it>) (Dave)

SANDMAN - THE LONG WALK HOME CD Sandman plays folk ballads from a long tradition of traveling singer songwriters. He mix's his lyrics with old sensibilities and modern subject matter. The music ranges from acoustic to electric to just his voice. Some songs have more instruments as well. All the songs are pretty sad and definitely very slow. (crimethinc/ po box 1963/ Olympia WA 98807. www.crimethinc.com) (europian)

SEQUE - 10" This band is weird, and almost too weird for me, but always still totally intriguing. It's discordant and manic, but then they have a violin or cello, and epic singing female vocalization, over top of gruff deep vocals, and a throttled thick chaotic musical style. There are no lyrics - they free form interpret them - perhaps they are just voice utterances, who knows. It ends up being somewhat artsy or tribal, and interpretive with a technical style, which is why I say weird. They are from Mpls, and they are heavy, but also chaotic, and grating. (\$10ppd/Fight For Your Mind/47, Avenue Gilbert Roux/03300 Cussey/France) (-Chris)

SEX POSITIONS - S/T CD Energizing, hip wiggling hardcore pandemonium in the style of Blood Bros. & The Locust. Nastily noisy and Black Flagish on some songs. These guys are probably all over the stage when they play live. I liked this as well for the electronic weirdness and subtle new waveness. So hot, they melted the ice in my Mountain Dew. (DEATHWISH Records/www.deathwishinc.com) (-Johnny)

SICK TERROR - VIDA MEDIOCRE 7" Hyperspeed thrash from Brazil. In the recent past they have incorporated electronic noise into their sound, but this is going back to relying on pure speed, and that's definitely what they do best. This ranges. Every song blasts by screaming while you take a breath to notice HERESY and RIISTEYTT tunes. Awesome. (Undislessed/BP 515/33001 Bordeaux Cedex/France) (-JAY)

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SIGNAL LOST - CHILDREN OF A WASTELAND LP+CD After a popular demo, this Austin, TX outfit comes storming out the gate with a powerful, intensely unique full length. Mid-tempo, melodic, catchy punk rock, with off the chart female vocals, cranked way up in the mix. More singing than screaming, but still PISSSED OFF. Don't let the "melodic" description scare you off: this is NOT pop punk, but simply straight ahead, a bit old school sounding punk with a kick. Clean, quality recording, which brings out the best aspects of their song writing. Lyrics dealing with alienation, dissatisfaction, general "out of step" topics. This band brings a lot of others to mind, but nothing I can quite pin down. Post Regiment, Operation, with a little bit of old UK peace punk is about the best I can come up with though. The best domestic debut release I've heard in quite awhile. Hopefully this band can stay together and crank out some more quality releases. Highly recommended. (Prank Records/P.O. Box 410892/San Francisco, CA/94141) (-Andy)

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D.E.A.D. early discography
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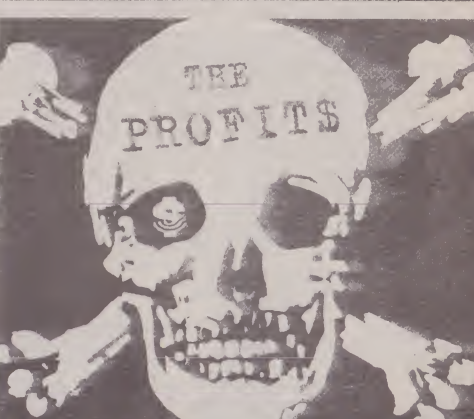


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ÄÄRITILÄ "...JA KAIKKI KUITENKIN PÄÄTTY KUOLEMAANI" CD
VIMEINEN KOLONNA "Ivukuva" CD



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obsession was realized. This is totally fucking amazing, a perfect record, and that I will be listening to inside and out for months to come until I get the chance to see them myself. This starts out with an epic intro, and then burst forth with Japanese hardcore thrash. They weave together blistering and pummeling heavy hardcore style with a totally epic, monumental and triumphant swooning style that is utter perfection. There is a whole lot of Tragedy influence, and I would actually say that Muga is like a cross between Tragedy and Crow, which is pretty fucking hot. The heaviness is brooding, the weaving melodic guitars drive forth, the drums pummel with frantic energy and a throttling power, and I swear that there are dual male/female vocals. It sounds that way, and whether it's two guys, or a guy and a girl, it sounds awesome and it's a new dynamic to the sound which only makes it better. The whole album leaves me breathless and going back for more. While I can hear parts that could be lifted straight out of a Tragedy song, I also know that Muga are taking their influences from the same places that Tragedy do, and while the companions are inevitable, if you like the sound and style — then this will leave you as stoked as I am. It's truly divine and I will rage and carry on and talk this shit up like never before, cause when I'm stoked, I'm stoked. And Muga fucking rule!!!! I almost can't breathe, gasp, gasp!! (Putrid Filth Conspiracy/Box 7092/200 42 Malmö/ Sweden <www.putridfilth.com>) (-Chris) *****

MUMBLER - THE WINTER OF OUR DISCONTENT 7" Low fi pop punk with awesome heartfelt lyrics about failed travels, cold cities, and depression. The production on this is perfect for the style of punk they play. It really gives this record an old school pop punk feel ala Crimpshrine rather than the overproduced radio sound that is so popular today. (Salinas records/PO box 20998/Ferndale, MI 48220) (European)

MY FAVORITE CHORD - ROMANCE IS DEAD CD Really screamy emo with too much of the same ol' pissed-but-passionate rock that just never did anything for me. I am just not sappy enough to "get it" I guess. (Ass Card Records, Annenstr. 5, 44137 Dortmund, Germany www.asscardrecords.com) (Dave)

MY SO-CALLED BAND - WEAPONS OF MASS DISTORTION CD; My So-Called Band

what I'm taking about. The lyrics are positive and smart, and delivered in a straight forward way. It's charged adrenaline and super fucking catchy. I love it! (Lean On Me Records/84 Avenue Emile Zola/79100 Th9ouars/France <leanonme.records@wanadoo.fr> and Middle Class Prod/65 Rye Voltaire/72000 Le Mans/France <middle.class.productions@caranail.com>) (-Chris) ****

ODIO - DOOMSDAY CASSETTE Grind punk from Mexico. Growing guttural vocals (mixed with occasional snarls) and pounding drums, and then there are the fi guitars that bring to mind classic Mexican punk. The similarities to MASSACRE 68 do not end with their country of origin, and the pro cassette release fits the style perfectly. There are moments of melody, which prevent monolony, and makes the tape a better listen as a whole than track by track. (honestly, the first song is among the worst, but the last song on side 1 is amazing) There is some great stuff going on in Mexico... (Reacciona c/b Fernando Lozano, Apdo. Postal 1946, C. P. 64001 Monterrey, N.L. MEXICO) (-Robert)

ONE LINE DRAWING - THE VOLUNTEERS CD; This is the most exciting CD this guy has made since the Far record. Jonah Matranga's been doing that whole sensitive guy with a guitar thing longer than most of the people doing it these days. I've always thought his lyrics were pretty sincere and meaningful, but his music was always a little too, uh, sensitive, for my ears. The four songs on the sampler for this album leave me wanting more, though. He gets tough on some songs. It's amazing. He still has the weird electric noises, like the R2-D2 and all that. For the fans of his previous efforts, there are still a few sensitive tracks for you to shed a tear to. I prefer the rock songs to walk the pups to. (Jade Tree Records, 2310 Kenwynn Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810/www.jadetree.com) (-TNT)

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AUSGEBOMBT "HellBomber" LP / CD

WORLD BURNS TO DEATH "No Dawn Comes...Night Without End" 7"EP

WORLD BURNS TO DEATH "The Sucking of the Missile Cock" LP / CD+

NAILBITER "Abused" LP / CD

SEVERED HEAD OF STATE "Anathema Device" LP / CD

RELIGIOUS WAR "Cracked System" LP

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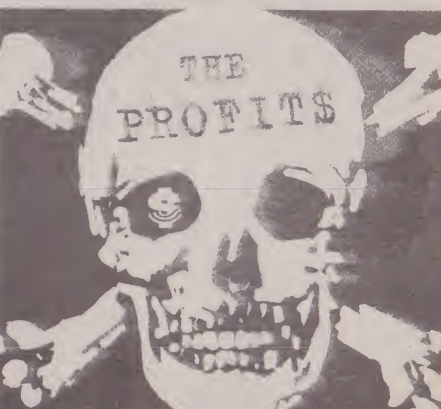
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blasting drum beats that throttle out of control one minute and rock it had the next. The vocal style also trades between the deep and the beating guttural. And this is heavy and brooding and metallic with crunch and punch and a raw dark power unleashed. I love my crust, but I'm not crazy about the blast beats and some of the crazed vocal styles. But Skarp hold it all in check and keep me enamored. Some days this is to be my favorite thing in the world, while others I might pass; but those feelings also come up through songs on the CD alone. And I can hold on through the blast beats to rock it through the deep-toned grooves and chunky epic hooks. Skarp remind me of the mid 90s when crust and grind and power violence and thrash were all sorted out their various stylistic influences, and what they harness together today is actually rather refreshing and cool and I dig it. (Inimical Records <www.inimical.com> / Skarp 1601 S. Main St. Apt. V/Seattle WA 98144) (-Chns)

SKREW WHIFF / TENDRIL VITAE CD I was knocked out in excitement when I got this on LP. I was excited to see these ex-Ha!us folks with a new band. This is awesome crusty punk with super gnarly vocals and a rather upbeat guitar style with a metallic crunchy edge that does not hesitate to turn into a manic shredding assault one minute and then play an upbeat catchy hook the next. This is metallic crust punk that mixes up styles, with plenty of upbeat catchy parts which keeps this all the more interesting and from sounding like you've heard it before, while delivering the familiar sounds of the genre if you've been listening to political crust punk for years. Willie's vocals manage the same diverse range, while sticking to a pretty manic raw style. This is fucking awesome! Life is Abuse has released this one CD in the US, and it includes the LP as well as a remixed demo recording. (Life is Abuse/PO Box 20524 Oakland CA 94620 <www.lifeisabuse.com>) (-Chns)

SLUMLOARDS - 57 CD After fronting NYC's legendary hardcore band Breakdown in the 80's, who would have thought Jeff would be back in a new band some 15 years later?! This is NOT some 3rd rate Breakdown clone though, it is more of a street-punk-meets-fast hardcore band. Jeff brings his in-your-face vocal/lyrical style, but is backed by an equally tough band with a firm tongue-in-their-cheek too. 15 almost-tinged anthems about walking the dog, working for an eviction crew, tenners, followers, and beer drinking mayhem. I was skeptical at first, but then I gave them a listen, and Jeff & his new band have a winner here! (Perfect Victim Records, PO Box 52084, Boston, MA 02205 www.perfectvictimrecords.com) (Dave)

SMUT PEDDLERS - COMING OUT CD I remember I heard the sweet sounds of the SP's in a skate video with the memorable chorus of "fucky you - that's why", and I have loved them ever since! TKO is their new home, and a welcome addition to their roster. Top notch recording, rad Forbes hot rod art, and enhanced cd-rom footage - what more could you ask for?! "Rebatron Party" is the raddest jam on this, and is now stuck in my head... thanks guys! (TKO Records, 3126 W. Cary St. #303, Richmond, VA 23221 www.tkorecords.com) (Dave)

SOLID DECLINE - BACK IN LINE 7" Power packed hardcore that rocks with a ferocious energy and a vocal style that is screamed at a moderate raw tonal range that is almost triumphant, but well it's hard to describe. It's all kept in check and delivered in a straight forward and relentless energetic assaulting way. This band is from Germany, and they used to be known as Y. This is solid, in a no-bullshit, relentless hardcore attack, kind of way, that is awesome. (Heart First/Florian Helmchen Landsberger Str. 146/80339 Munchen/Germany <stuckinthe80s@heartfirst.net>) (-Chns)

SOOPHE NUN SQUAD - PASIZLE SLIZZES THE DRIZZLE CD Genius or madness? Well a bit of both really. I'm not really sure how to describe their music. It's really fun, totally punk, full of dance hooks, and has R&B and hip influences. I know this sounds like a gigantic recipe for disaster but somehow it really works. They still have hilarious lyrics, clap along parts, and rad breakdowns. What's new though is a much higher production quality and a fairly tale that runs throughout the second half of the record. Even with all these diverse and slightly insane influences Soophie still play awesome melodic punk. The best description I can come up for this record is just really fun! (plan-it-4/ po box 3521/Bloomington, IN 47402/ www.plan-it-xrecords.com) (european)

Split: CATHETER/FUBAR CD A pairing of grindcore from the USA & Holland. Both bands excel at the genre and you can easily label the disc "BRUTAL". Come on, that's really all I need to say here... (Selfmagedog/pob 46 21500 Biala Pod/Poland) (-JAY)

Split: BOMBSTRIKE/LEGION 666 - TEMPLE OF BLASPHEMY SPLIT 7" Now this is how a split 7" should look - as in you know what the bands are, and you can tell their names and which side is which and you don't have to decide which one you're going to have facing you cause both are on the 'cover'. I'm already obsessed with Canadian Legion 666 who play a are a rad crusty punk metal band. Think Venom, Bathory with Scandi-punk and Amex influences. They do a Crude SS cover here along with an original with the kind of epic dark lyrics that I'm a sucker for. Thick, heavy, and pummeling with an underlying crusty groove. This fucking rules. Bombstrike are from Sweden, and play a bit more of the classic style of raging hardcore we've come to expect. Guitar driven, with a pummeling and galloping energy, gruff vocals, and those guitar patterns that just pull you along. This is a great split. (Schizophrenic Records/17 W. 4th St/Hamilton Ontario L9C 3M2 Canada <www.schizophrenicrecords.com>) (-Chns)

Split: BORNDEAD/CONSUME - SPLIT LP I am totally obsessed with BornDead. They play some of the best biting heavy political hardcore around, with a totally charged sound, they pummeling and rage and deliver the goods in a more straight forward punk style, think Aas Rotten, than many of the other crusty Scandi-influenced hardcore bands around today. With trade off dual vocals from the guitar and bass player, they are tight and catchy and punk rockingly awesome, delivering more of what you'd expect after their album. Four more songs here (hooray!) and a Necros cover. Seattle's Consume seem to be putting out releases left and right. They play a standard D-beat style of crust punk with gruff vocals, and a repetitive beat of the Discharge formula. They are totally good, but a bit too much of the same to be my favorite band. Solid and good all around, this is a great split and every single release Yellow Dog puts out is up there among my top faves! (Yellow Dog/PO Box 50208/10372 Berlin/Germany <www.yellowdog.de>) (-Chns)

Split: CEMENTARIO SHOW/L'AMICO DI MARTUCCI SPLIT LP Three original ragers

more straightforward than their 825 EP, but there is still an originality here that is tough to describe. L'ADMI sound like no one... when the drums double time for no reason when there is an over the top guitar lead that simply doesn't belong (but fits perfectly when the third song, "Se," ends with the catchiest slow melodic riff imaginable... but I want to play these songs for everyone.) (Thought Crime c/o Thomas Franke, Boxhagener Str. 22 10245 Berlin, GERMANY) (-Robert)

Split: DISFACE/CRATIURA - SPLIT 7" Wow! This is amazing. It's not every day you get to hear new rad bands from Spain with women singing. Actually I've heard Cratiura before and they caught my attention then. They still remind me a lot of Spitboy, but with a thicker heavier sound. Dual female vocals create much of the Spitboy emo-ish feeling and the sorta down grooved style as well. It's kind of straight forward, and not so distorted, but you can hear the vocals very clearly as well as the musicianship all around. Now Disface... when have you ever heard of a Dis band with a female singer? Hot fucking damn! And it starts out with her totally operatic vocals, and actually isn't nearly as "dis" as you expect, but rocks hard all the same with a galloping energetic style that is heavy and catchy, and the vocals change from operatic to a chorus of a harsher style while the guitars just rage forth with the catchy yet heavy hooks. This is a great looking record - with a really nice sleeve design and inside lyric pages as well. It's all in Spanish, but I can tell that both bands are of a political nature. This is fucking awesome! (Tolu Guemila/Siedingersbabe 58/28203 Bremer/Germany <cioche@gmx.net>) (-Malaraza/ ApdC 6037/ 50080 Zaragoza/Spain <malaraza@sindominio.net>) (-Chns)

Split: DONA MALDAD/GENERACION PERDIDA - SPLIT 7" This is a cool split from the South American punks. Generation Perdida are from Peru, and they play an upbeat energetic punky punk style, with a good goop driving beat, and a anarcho-punk message delivered all in Spanish. Dona Maldad, from Venezuela, play a rougher and heavier style of punky punk, with more distortion and rage, than pogo. But that doesn't take away from the straight forward catchy punk style at all, cause catchy this is. Both bands are really good and this is a really rad split to see. It's got nice Erik Drooker art on the cover too to catch your eye. Pick this out and see what the political punks in Peru and Venezuela are doing. Really recommended! (DM Records/ Juan Pablo/ PO 10536 Bella Vista/ Maracaibo 4002/ Venezuela) (-Chns) ****

Split: FIFTH HOUR HERO / THE SAINTE CATHERINES 7" FHH play melodic punk songs with both male and female vocals. Hey are really amazing at what they do and I like this as much as anything else they have put out. The Sainte Cathelines play are more on the hardcore side of things. They also play fast music with melodic leads but their vocals are a bit more shouted. Both these bands hail from Canada. The packaging on his record is really nice. (1-2-3-4 Go Records www.1234gorecords.com) (european)

Split: HOLOKAUST/DISSYSTEMA - SPLIT 7" This is a fucking great split of two rad political crust punk bands, and it's done in a gatefold sleeve, which is most unusual for a 7". Holokaust took the world by storm with their 7", and this follow up brings one new song, and an Antiscap cover, which is rad. Everyone said they sounded so much like Antiscap, so it's cool to hear the cover which they do so well. They've even got a synth in there, though it's not too predominant. CT's Dissystema are one of the best new bands I've seen lately, I was so taken with their crusty punk style — I was blown away and raving. Thick guitar sound, raging and pummeling crust punk assault with dual vocals. Two great bands, and a great record that all you crusty punks need to have. The unfortunate problem is the recording for both of them sounds bad. It's low and muddy and doesn't do a service to either who I know are so good. (Cries of Pain/ PO Box 1004/Windsor CT 06095 <cnesofpain@hotmail.com>) (-Chns)

Split: INTENSITY/E150 SPLIT EP I'm in heaven. ☺ This has been in the works for a while and while I KNEW it was going to be amazing, I had no idea it would be this great. INTENSITY leaps of the vinyl with three songs that are too fucking hot to be believed; just full on high energy hardcore with slight leanings in the "dark heavy melodic" direction... but those leanings do nothing to take away from the fucking assault. ☺ Tight, energetic, devastatingly AWESOME. ☺ E150 walk into this record with the fastcore crown, and then after six songs, that crown still sits firmly atop their heads. ☺ Six songs proving that just because your drummer is blasting away back behind you, doesn't mean you cannot write a killer SONG. ☺ E150 writes amazing songs, the guitar is all across the board, and the drums don't cheat one... lyrics address parental issues, fear of the homeless (or, more accurately, the situations that caused them to become homeless, and how easily the same scenarios could affect any of us), and the educational system. ☺ Complaints? ☺ Well, I guess the guitar solo in the DISCHARGE cover is a tad buried... but everything else is flawless. ☺ (Thought Crime, c/o T. Franke, Boxhagener Str. 22, 10245 Berlin GERMANY) (-Robert)

Split: JILTED/MURDER DISCO EXPERIENCE - MUSIC VS. MILITARY SPLIT LP Jilted erupt on side one with a pummeling swell, and blistering raspy loud vocals in Italian that scream out abrasively against religion, state control, war, and political/economics. This is fast paced hardcore punk, with a rawness and harshness in the vocals, while musically this is heavy with a power and speed, and a monumental catchiness to it at the same time. Murder Disco from Germany are pissed, and are the band who don't want to be called "crust", they sing out against US politics and the axis of evil administration, plus supporting punk parents. Stylistically they play a catchy style of hardcore punk,

personally find it a bit overproduced as a whole and there is really not much of the punk from the original versions left in these new ones. Both sides are slow paced and overly melancholic except for a couple of songs like "Not Your Savior" in my opinion what makes a lot of acoustic punk out there appealing is that it's so stripped down and basic but this record does not follow this concept at all. (fat wreck chords/po box 193690/SF, CA 94119-3690/www.fatwreck.com) (european)

Split: KISS UPS/KITTY LITTLE - Split CD Both of these bands have a totally fun poppy punk sound. For some reason the KISS UPS kind of remind me of Blatz at certain moments especially the vocals but they really are not nearly that punk. They have a totally bass heavy sound and slightly off key vocals. Their romantic ballad "Good Night" is the highlight of their side of the split for me. KITTY LITTLE are more guitar oriented and have female as well as male vocals. They are also a bit more fast paced and chaotic. The cover art of two robots fighting each other on a pink background fits these two upstate NY bands music perfectly. (art of underground records/3234 main st/Buffalo NY 14214/artoftheunderground@hotmail.com) (european)

Split: MADLINE/SAW WHEEL 7" Madeline is slow rock with female vocals. It's pretty, poppy, and has clap along parts. I like this but it's nothing really new or amazing. Saw Wheel is acoustic folk from a member of One Reason with a serious punk feel. The vocals are raspy and soul full. The guitar is fast and simple which works really well. I really like this a lot but one song each just isn't enough for me. The art from this record is really nice. (hill billy stew records/PO box 82625/ San Diego, CA 92138-2625/www.hillbillystew.com) (european)

Split: MIDNIGHT CREEPS/CAPO REGIME - SPLIT CD Each of these bands contribute 5 songs. The first being MA's Midnight Creeps, whose female-fronted angst is



captured here pretty well. Imagine Theo from The Lunachicks if she got REALLLLLLY pissed off & was fronting a more punky-rockabilly band. The last 5 tracks from the Capo Regime are more of a machine gun attack of UK punk like some of the more forgettable bands of the early 80's, and didn't really stand out to me that much. (Roden Popsicle Records, PO Box 1143, Boston, MA 02134 www.rodenpopsicle.com) (Dave)

Split: MILKCRATE BUSTLERS/SAW WHEEL 7" The Milkcrate Rustlers are blue grass as hell. I really love this and think it's cool that punk are playing this style of music. The high pitched vocals fit the music so well and I just love the banjo. Saw Wheel's side is one mid paced acoustic number that rocks. I really like the vocals with their raspy tones remind me a lot of Rumbleseat. Plus this song is about skipping stones, drinking wine, and walking on train tracks which are all really romantic subjects matters to sing about. (hill billy stew records/PO box 82625/San Diego, CA 92138-2625/www.hillbillystew.com) (european)

Split: MYLES OF DESTRUCTION/ABIKU - SPLIT 7" Myles are very interesting style of creepy goth grind. They are a 3 piece with violin, drums and bass, and it's the violin which really makes this stand out in a unique way. It's creepy sounding - and would totally intrigue any of the old new wave goth folks. But then the vocal style is gruff and the bass/drums is generally heavy and more thrash/grind aligned. Makes for a totally unique sound. Abiku is perhaps even more bizarre, taking on an electronic video game feeling, with drum machine and totally insane sounding echoed female vocals that range from a feeling of the new wave goth to totally panned thrash/grind. This is a 2 piece of vocals and synth. Both bands are totally unique and different, intriguing, almost flooring me with being amazing, but being just harsh and abrasive and weird enough to keep me surprised. (\$3ppd/ World Estate/ PO Box 42728 Phila PA 19101/www.worldestaterecords.com>) (-Chns)

Split: NEON MANIACS/CRANKED UP - SPLIT 7" The NM's go for the rock'n'late 80's style of California punk, while Cranked Up go for a more street punk sound, with a very singalong packed effort. Two different bands, but equally enjoyable. (Puke N Vomit Records, PO Box 3435, Fullerton, CA 92834) (Dave)

925/MI QC H21 4V2 Canada <aversion.records@videotron.ca>)

Split: RUNNAMUCKS/AVO SPLIT EP I'll be goddamned if the RUNNAMUCKS aren't great. ☺ They deliver the goods live, shirtless torsos dripping sweat and nerdy faces contorted with rocking intensity, sounding more authentic than any throwback hardcore wannabe could ever be. ☺ These two songs feel a touch more metal than their previous outings; not crossover per se, but metal ☺ Very solid. ☺ Australia's AVO have (hopefully) left behind the bullshit lyrical content, and stick to playing crazy fast shit (although I remember their other records were faster). ☺ More bare bones and less thrash on this release, resulting in an even more killer version of in your face and down your throat hardcore than before. ☺ The power comes from the knowledge that under the right (wrong) circumstances, you would be very glad to have these guys on your team. ☺ Awesome stuff on both sides, from two bands who get consistently overlooked. ☺ (Kangaroo, Middenweg 13 1098 AA Amsterdam, HOLLAND) (-Robert)

Split: SECRET 7/JAHILIA SPLIT EP SECRET 7 deliver nine (!) songs on their side of this split. ☺ um... "raging thrash"? ☺ YES!!! ☺ Skating skeletons weave their way through these politically charged gems... the shit is perfect ☺ Like HERESY, except really tight, and with better riffs (gasp— you mean HERESY isn't perfect!?!?) ☺ Listen to SECRET 7 and you won't care who their influences are, you'll just want to hear more. ☺ Even better than their 625 EP, which is fucking killer. ☺ Fellow Singapore residents JAHILIA can only muster up six tracks of similar, albeit slightly slower hardcore (except for that blast beat... gawd DAMN!). ☺ Lyrically this band seems more about having fun, but songs about consumerism and pre-packaged sexuality show what they are thinking about outside of the pit. ☺ Not as gripping as SECRET 7, and slightly less original, but that's OK, because the moments that are good more than make up for the ones that drag... and besides, I can flip it over and rage when it's over. ☺ (ThrashSteadySyndicate c/o Muhammad Fairuz Bin Taswadi, blk 204 Marsiling Dr., #07-208, SINGAPORE 730204) (-Robert)

Split: SPITTING TEETH/1-2-GO! CREW SPLIT EP Thought you'd heard the last of SPITTING TEETH? ☺ Think again. ☺ Their last effort is their best by far: five tunes of borderline crossover thrashing hardcore with youth crew breakdowns-a-plenty ☺ This shit has been done a thousand times, yes, but this execution is perfect. ☺ I've heard about 1-2-GO! CREW... but I now feel like a fool for having never treated myself. ☺ Hip Hop ain't my thing so good luck figuring out why I'm enjoying this SxH hip hop duo as much as I am... but shit, with "Walk Together Rap Together," and "Ninjas To The Back" on your slab ☺ Waw, how can I not smile? ☺ (1-2-3-4-GO! Records) (-Robert)

Split: STRONG INTENTION/SOLID DECLINE - SPLIT 7" Strong Intention burst forth with blistering over the top metal that is thick and powerful, with a dual guttural vocal style that creates the manic element. This is intense and urgent shit, with a really crazed power that leaves you winded. I like the thick metallic guitar layered sound better than the guttural chaotic vocals style. Solid Decline, from Germany offer up a couple more songs that go nicely in hand with their 7". Thick heavy and powerful hardcore with the roar roar vocal style. Good shit, good split. (Vendetta/Gleinstrasse 17/10437 Berlin/Germany <www.vendettarecords.de>) (-Chns)

Split: THE DUKES OF HILLSBOROUGH/ATARIRAS SPLIT CD The Duke of Hillsborough play some rough around the edges melodic punk rock like many others from their home state of Florida. Their lyrics indicate that they firmly believe that beer makes life suck a little bit less. They're pretty great. Atariras are from the opposite side of the country as the Dukes, but they play a similar style of music, if only a little bit faster. Their songs are pretty sarcastic and dark, but great nonetheless. Definitely check this out if you like Leatherface and the like. Choice. (Attention Deficit Disorder, P.O. Box 8240, Tampa, FL 33674 www.addwreckedkios.com) (-TNT)

Split: THE ENABLERS/BEDFORD FALLS SPLIT 7" The U.K. meets the U.S. in efforts to rock against heartache and frustration on this small slab of black vinyl. The Enablers are from Los Angeles and Miami and play fairly straightforward rock with a Bruce Springsteen meets The Replacements kind of feel to it. Bedford Falls give the Cardiff, Wales angle on a similar musical style and play quite well, adding a bit more of a melodic element to the mix. All songs on this ep are about heartache and friendship and the making and breaking of bonds that surround the two. (Newest Industry, Unit 100, 61 Wellfield Rd., Cardiff, CF24 3DG, UK www.thenewestindustry.com) (-TNT)

Split: THE GAMMITS M.W. MEMBERS OF THE YELLOW PRESS - TEETERING ON THE EDGE OF DESTRUCTION SPLIT CD The Gammits MW sound like mid-nineties, sloppy pop punk. They're pretty edgy and not too bad, but not great, either. The Members of the Yellow Press sound like Slant 6 or other lo-fi DC garage "post" punk with more screaming. They are also not bad, but not great, either. Both bands have political lyrics and are from Wisconsin. (Big Action Records, 217 East King St., Winona, MN 55987) (-TNT)

STEREOTYPEIDER - UNDER THE INFLUENCE CD This album which is only covers is the first I've ever heard of this band and I'm actually really into it but I also love cover songs. I think it would be kind of hard to make a bad album with all the best songs that other people wrote unless you couldn't play at all but Stereotypeider can. They cover some of my personal favorite bands (mostly from the nineties) including The Cure, Descendents, and Pixies. The rest of the bands they cover are also good but just aren't my favorites even though the song I like the best here is probably the Archers of Loaf song "Lowest Part is Free". Stereotypeider themselves play melodic hardcore and that style really ends up fitting well with all of the songs they cover. The layout is very Pixies inspired as well. (Suburban Home Records/PO box 40757 Denver/CO 80204) (european)

STRAIGHTEDGE KEGGER - FUCK THE KIDS 7" Fast DIY thrash from Fresno, CA. I shouldn't really review this because they have a song against that, called "Review this Asshole", so that's all I can offer for you, well, besides "this is good". (Undislessed/BP 515/33001 Bordeaux Cedex/France) (-JAY)

STREET TRASH - 41 EP Los Angeles skate thrash at it's finest. ☺ Just saw them a few times on tour, and they ripped things up every time. ☺ Really really fast, but no blasting or grinding, quirky like JELLYROLL ROCKHEADS (and similar vocals as well) or FUTURES. ☺ Buzz saw guitars (with tasty hot kicks when appropriate) and riffs that might get stuck in your head if they weren't so damned fast... not a complaint, just an observation. ☺ Musically, this shit is great, but any brownie points earned by STREET TRASH for not including an skating ejaculating penis on the cover (like they had on their first release) is gone. ☺ (www.streettrash.com) (-JAY)

interesting and from sounding like you've heard it before, while delivering the familiar sounds of the genre if you've been listening to political crust punk for years. Willie's vocals manage the same diverse range, while sticking to a pretty manic raw style. This is fucking awesome! Life is Abuse has released this one CD in the US, and it includes the LP as well as a remixed demo recording. (Life is Abuse/PO Box 20524/Oakland CA 94620 <www.lifeisabuse.com>) (-Chns)

SLUMLORDS - ST CD After fronting NYC's legendary hardcore band Breakdown in the 80's, who would have thought Jeff would be back in a new band some 15 years later?! This is NOT some 3rd rate Breakdown clone though, it's more of a street punk-meets-fast hardcore band. Jeff brings his in-your-face vocal/lyrical style, but is backed by an equally tough band with a firm tongue-in-their-cheek too. 15 almost-oi tinged anthems about walking the dog, working for an eviction crew, trend followers, and beer drinking mayhem. I was skeptical at first, but then I gave them a listen, and Jeff & his new band have a winner here! (Perfect Victim Records, PO Box 52084, Boston, MA 02205 www.perfectvictimrecords.com) (Dave)

SMUT PEDDLERS - COMING OUT CD I remember I heard the sweet sounds of the SP's in a skate video with the memorable chorus of "fuck you - that's why", and I have loved them ever since! TKO is their new home, and a welcome addition to their roster. Top notch recording, rad Forbes hot rod art, and enhanced cd-rom footage - what more could you ask for?! "Rebatron Party" is the raddest jam on this, and is now stuck in my head... thanks guys! (TKO Records, 3126 W. Cary St. #303, Richmond, VA 23221 www.tkorecords.com) (Dave)

SOLID DECLINE - BACK IN LINE 7" Power packed hardcore that rocks with a ferocious energy and a vocal style that's screamed at a moderate raw tonal range that is almost triumphant, but well it's hard to describe. It's all kept in check and delivered in a straight forward and relentless energetic assaulting way. This band is from Germany, and they used to be known as Y. This is solid, in a no-bullshit, relentless hardcore attack, kind of way, that is awesome. (Heart First/Florian Helmchen Landsberger Str. 146/80339 Munchen/Germany <stuckinthe80s@heartfirst.net>) (-Chris)

SOOPHIE NUN SQUAD - PASIZZLE SLIZZLES THA DRIZZLE CD Genius or madness? Well a bit of both really. I'm not really sure how to describe their music. It's really fun, totally punk, full of dance hooks, and has R&B and hip influences. I know this sounds like a gigantic recipe for disaster but somehow it really works. They still have hilarious lyrics, clap along parts, and bar breakdowns. What's new though is a much higher production quality and a fairly tale that runs throughout the second half of the record. Even with all these diverse and slightly insane influences Sophie still play awesome melodic punk. The best description I can come up for this record is just really fun! (plan-it-y po box 3521/Bloomington, IN 47402/ www.plan-it-xrecords.com) (european)

Split: CATHETER / FUBAR CD A panning of grindcore from the USA & Holland. Both bands excel at the genre and you can easily label this disc "BRUTAL". Come on, that's really all I need to say here... (Selfmadegod/pob 46/21500 Biala Podl./Poland) (-JAY)

Split: BOMBSTRIKE / LEGION 666 - TEMPLE OF BLASPHEMY SPLIT 7" Now this is how a split 7" should rock - as in you know what the bands are, and you can tell their names and which side is which and you don't have to decide which one you're going to have facing you cause both are on the "cover". I'm already obsessed with Canadian Legion 666 who play a are a rad crusty punk metal band. Think Venom, Bathory with Scandi-punk and Amebix influences. They do a Crude SS cover here along with an original with the kind of epic dark lyrics that I'm a sucker for. Thick, heavy, and pummeling with an underlying crusty groove. This fucking rules. Bombstrike are from Sweden, and play a bit more of the classic style of raging hardcore we've come to expect. Guitar driven, with a pummeling and galloping energy, gruff vocals, and those guitar patterns that just pull you along. This is a great split. (Schizophrenic Records/17 W. 4th St/Hamilton Ontario/L9C 3M2 Canada <www.schizophrenicrecords.com>) (-Chris)

Split: BORN DEAD / CONSUME - SPLIT LP I am totally obsessed with Born Dead. They play some of the best biting heavy political hardcore around, with a totally charged sound, they pummeling and rage and deliver the goods in a more straight forward punk style, think Aus Rotten, than many of the other crusty Scandi-influenced hardcore bands around today. With trade off dual vocals from the guitar and bass player, they are tight and catchy and punk rockingly awesome, delivering more of what you'd expect after their album. Four more songs here (hooray!) and a Necros cover. Seattle's Consume seem to be putting out releases left and right. They play a standard O-beat style of crust punk with gruff vocals, and a repetitive beat of the Discharge formula. They are totally good, but a bit too much of the same to be my favorite band. Solid and good all around, this is a great split and every single release Yellow Dog puts out is up there among my top faves! (Yellow Dog/PO Box 550208/10372 Berlin/Germany <www.yellowdog.de>) (-Chns)

Split: CEMENTARIO SHOW / L'AMICO DI MARTUCCI SPLIT LP Three original ragers and a SEIN' RED cover from CEMENTARIO SHOW; super fast, raspy vocals, great riffs...you get it? You get it. Breakdowns used spangly but effectively, hate filled lyrics, and massive guitars...the best stuff I've heard thus far from CS! L'AMICO DI MARTUCCI are among the top bands I've ever seen live, a total steamroller of urgency, melody and all out hardcore. Mix the sound of their Italian ancestors with the quirky hooks of the MINUTEMEN and you are in the ballpark. These four tracks are a touch

with a really nice sleeve design and inside lyric pages as well. It's all in Spanish, but it can tell better than any of a political nature. This is fucking awesome! (Tolu Guerrilla/Stedinglerstrabe 58/28203 Bremen/Germany <coiche@gmx.net> / Malaraza/ ApdC 6037/50080 Zaragoza/Spain <malaraza@sidominio.net>) (-Chns)

Split: DONA MALDAD / GENERACION PERDIDA - SPLIT 7" This is a cool split from the South American punks. Generacion Perdida are from Peru, and they play an upbeat energetic punky punk style, with a good pogo driving beat, and an anarcho-punk message delivered all in Spanish. Dona Maldad, from Venezuela, play a rougher and heavier style of punky punk, with more distortion and rage, than pogo. But that doesn't take away from the straight forward catchy punk style at all, cause catchy this is. Both bands are really good and this is a really rad split to see. It's got nice Enk Brooker art on the cover too to catch your eye. Pick this up out and see what the political punks in Peru and Venezuela are doing. Really recommended! (DM Records/ Juan Pablo/ AP 10536 Bella Vista/ Maracaibo 4002/ Venezuela) (-Chris) ****

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Split: JOEY CAPE / TONY SLY-ACOUSTIC CD On this CD the two front men from both Lagwagon and No Use For A Name play some of their songs in an acoustic fashion. If you are already a fan of these bands you will probably find this totally interesting. I

wasn't acoustic, but from a member of the Reason band, the vocals are raspy and soul full. The guitar is fast and simple which works really well. I really like this a lot but one song each isn't enough for me. The art from this record is really nice. (hill billy stew records/ PO box 82625/ San Diego, CA 92138-2625/ www.hillbillystew.com) (european)

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Split: PERSISTANCE / OSSIFRAGE - SPLIT 7" This is 2 grind bands from Quebec, both of which have women in the bands, which is pretty fucking rad. But the sleeve is so chaotic, it's almost impossible to figure out the band names, which is always frustrating. Persistence plays a super thick, distorted style of crust-grind punk with dual female/male vocals, on a very rockin' under style. Her voice is rad, and easily this is my fave of the two. Ossifrage are much more classic heavy grind, alternating between the slow and chunky stoner style and the blast beat driven manic fast parts. (Aversion/Succ "C" CP

to SECRET 7, and you won't care who their influences are, you'll want to hear more. Even better than their 625 EP, which is fucking killer. Fellow Singapore residents JAHILIA can only muster up six tracks of similar, albeit slightly slower hardcore (except for that blast beat...gawd DAMN!). Lyrically this band seems more about having fun, but songs about consumerism and pre-packaged sexuality show what they are thinking about outside of the pit. Not as gripping as SECRET 7, and slightly less original, but that's OK, because the moments that are good more than make up for the ones that drag...and besides, I can flip it over and rage when it's over! (ThrashSteadySyndicate c/o Muhammad Fariz Bin Taswadi, bkt 204 Marsiling Dr., #07-208, SINGAPORE 730204) (-Robert)

Split: SPITTING TEETH / 1-2-3-4! CREW SPLIT EP Thought you'd heard the last of SPITTING TEETH? Think again. Their last effort is their best by far. Live tunes or borderline crossover thrashing hardcore with youth crew breakdowns-a-plenty. This shit has been done a thousand times, yes, but this execution is perfect. I've heard about 1-2-3-4! CREW...but now I feel like a fool for having never treated myself. Hip Hop ain't my thing so good luck figuring out why I'm enjoying this SxH hip hop duo as much as I am...but shit, with "Walk Together Rap Together," and "Ninjas To The Back" on your slab "O waw, how can I not smile? (1-2-3-4-4-4! Records) (-Robert)

Split: STRONG INTENTION / SOLID DECLINE - SPLIT 7" Strong Intention burst forth with blistering over the top metal that is thick and powerful, with a dual guttural vocal style that creates the manic element. This is intense and urgent shit, with a really crazed power that leaves you winded. I like the thick metallic guitar layered sound better than the guttural chaotic vocals style. Solid Decline, from Germany offer up a couple more songs that go nicely in hand with their 7". Thick heavy and powerful hardcore with the roar roar roar vocal style. Good shit, good split. (Vendetta/Gleimsstrasse 17/10437 Berlin/Germany <www.vendettarecords.de>) (-Chns)

Split: THE DUKES OF HILLSBOROUGH / ATARI RA SPLIT CD The Duke of Hillsborough play some rough around the edges melodic punk rock like some of their home state of Florida. Their lyrics indicate that they firmly believe that beer makes life suck a little bit less. They're pretty great. Altaira are from the opposite side of the country as the Dukes, but they play a similar style of music, if only a little bit faster. Their songs are pretty sarcastic and dark, but great nonetheless. Definitely check this out if you like Leatherface and the like. (Attention Deficit Disorder, P.O. Box 8240, Tampa, FL 33674 www.addwreckedkidds.com) TNT

Split: THE ENABLERS / BEDFORD FALLS SPLIT 7" The U.K. meets the U.S. in efforts to rock against heartache and frustration on this small slab of black vinyl. The Enablers are from Los Angeles and Miami and play fairly straightforward rock with a Bruce Springsteen meets The Replacements kind of feel to it. Bedford Falls give the Cardiff, Wales angle on a similar musical style and play quite well, adding a bit more of a melodic element to the mix. All songs on this ep are about heartache and friendship and the making and breaking of bonds that surround the two. (Newest Industry, Unit 100, 61 Wellfield Rd., Cardiff, CF24 3DG, UK www.thenewestindustry.com) (-TNT)

Split: THE GAMMITS M.W. / MEMBERS OF THE YELLOW PRESS - TEETERING ON THE EDGE OF DESTRUCTION SPLIT CD The Gammits MW sound like mid-nineties, sloppy pop punk. They're pretty edgy and not too bad, but not great, either. The Members of the Yellow Press sound like Slant 6 or other lo-fi DC garage "post" punk with more screaming. They are also not bad, but not great, either. Both bands have political lyrics and are from Wisconsin. (Big Action Records, 217 East King St., Winona, MN 55987) TNT

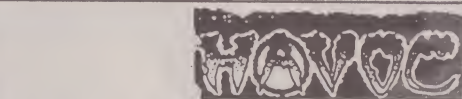
STEREOTYPE RIDER - UNDER THE INFLUENCE CD This album which is only covers is the first I've ever heard of this band and I'm actually really into it but I also love cover songs. I think it would be kind of hard to make a bad album with all the best songs that other people wrote unless you couldn't play at all but Stereotype rider can. They cover some of my personal favorite bands (mostly from the nineties) including The Cure, Descendents, and Pixies. The rest of the bands they cover are also good but just aren't my favorites even though the song I like the best here is probably the Archers of Loaf song "Lowest Part is Free". Stereotype rider themselves play melodic hardcore and that style really ends up fitting well with all of the songs they cover. The layout is very Pixies inspired as well. (Suburban Home Records/PO box 40757 Denver/CO 80204) (european)

STRAIGHTEDGE KEGGER - FUCK THE KIDS 7" Fast DIY thrash from Fresno, CA. I shouldn't really review this because they have a song against that, called "Review this Asshole", so that's all I can offer for you...well, besides "this is good". (Undislessed/BP 515/33001 Bordeaux Cedex/France) (-JAY)

STREET TRASH - X-LEP Los Angeles skate thrash at it's finest. Just saw them a few times on tour, and they ripped things up every time. Really really fast, but no blasting or grinding, quirky like JELLYROLL ROCKHEADS (and similar vocals as well) or FUTURES. Buzz saw guitars (with tasty hot licks when appropriate) and riffs that might get stuck in your head if they weren't so damned fast...not a complaint, just an observation. Musically, this shit is great, but any brownie points earned by STREET TRASH for not including an skating ejaculating penis on the cover (like they had on their first record) are nullified by not including lyrics to the song "Katie's Hole". Yeah well. (Kangaroo, Middenweg 13, 1098 AA Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS) (-Robert)

SUNDAY MORNING EINSTEINS - KANGNAVE In case you don't know, "Kangnave" means "crust shit", and that is what you will be thrusting skyward as soon as the first track commands you to. "Unleash The Fucking Fury". This is Scandinavian Dbeat madness at it's finest, lightning fast, and with a recording that provides all the clarity and tonnage necessary, without slipping into the metal pitfalls that some (although not

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along with an original with the kind of epic lyrics that I'm a sucker for. Thick, heavy, and pummeling with an underlying crusty groove. This fucking rules. Bombstrike are from Sweden, and play a bit more of the classic style of raging hardcore we've come to expect. Guitar driven, with a pummeling and galloping energy, gruff vocals, and those guitar patterns that just pull you along. This is a great split. (Schizophrenic Records/ 17 W. 4th St/ Hamilton Ontario/ L9C 3M2 Canada <www.schizophrenicrecords.com>) (-Chris)

SPLIT: BORNDEAD/CONSUME - SPLIT LP I am totally obsessed with BornDead. They play some of the best biting heavy political hardcore around, with a totally charged sound, they pummeling and rage and deliver the goods in a more straight forward punk style, think Aus Rotten, than many of the other crusty Scandi-influenced hardcore bands around today. With trade off dual vocals from the guitar and bass player, they are tight and catchy and punk rockingly awesome, delivering more of what you'd expect after their album. Four more songs here (hooray!) and a Necros cover. Seattle's Consume seem to be putting out releases left and right. They play a standard D-beat style of crust punk with gruff vocals, and a repetitive beat of the Discharge formula. They are totally good, but a bit too much of the same to be my favorite band. Solid and good all around, this is a great split and every single release Yellow Dog puts out is up there among my top faves! (Yellow Dog/PO Box 550208/ 10372 Berlin/ Germany <www.yellowdog.de>) (-Chns)

SPLIT: CEMENTARIO SHOW/L'AMICO DI MARTUCCI SPLIT EP Three original ragers and a SEIN' RED cover from CEMENTARIO SHOW; super fast, raspy vocals, great riffs...you get it? You get it. Breakdowns used sparingly but effectively, hate filled lyrics, and massive guitars...the best stuff I've heard thus far from CS. L'AMICO DI MARTUCCI are among the top bands I've ever seen live; a total steamroller of urgency, melody and all out hardcore. Mix the sound of their Italian ancestors with the quirky hooks of the MINUTEMEN and you are in the ballpark. These four tracks are a touch

and while I knew it was going to be amazing, I had no idea it would be this great. INTENSITY leaps of the vinyl with three songs that are too fucking hot to be believed; just full on high energy hardcore with slight leanings in the "dark heavy melody" direction...but those leanings do nothing to take away from the fucking assault. Tight, energetic, devastatingly AWESOME. E150 walk into this record with the fastcore crown, and then after six songs, that crown still sits firmly atop their heads. Six songs proving that just because your drummer is blasting away back behind you, doesn't mean you cannot write a killer SONG. E150 writes amazing songs, the guitar is all across the board, and the drums don't cheat once...lyrics address parental issues, fear of the homeless (or, more accurately, the situations that caused them to become homeless, and how easily the same scenarios could effect any of us), and the educational system. Complaints? Well, I guess the guitar solo in the DISCHARGE cover is a tad buried...but everything else is flawless. (Thought Crime, c/o T. Franke, Boxhagener str. 22, 10245 Berlin GER-MANY) (-Robert)

SPLIT: JILTED/MURDER DISCO EXPERIENCE - MUSIC VS. MILITARY SPLIT LP Jilted erupt on side one with a pummeling speed, and blistering raspy loud vocals in Italian that scream out abrasively against religion, state control, war, and political economics. This is fast paced hardcore punk, with a rawness and harshness in the vocals, while musically this is heavy with a power and speed, and a monumental catchiness to it at the same time. Murder Disco from Germany are pissed, and are the band who don't want to be called "crust", they sing out against US politics and the axis of evil administration, plus supporting punk parents. Stylistically they play a catchy style of hardcore punk, with a straight forward and totally pummeling raging energetic delivery of a breathless frenzy. Short, fast, loud, and tight, they rip shit up, and keep it rockin' and catchy. This is a great split of raging hardcore-punk. (www.agipunk.com) (-Chris)

SPLIT: JOEY CAPE/TONY SLY-ACOUSTIC CD On this CD the two front men from both Lagwagon and No Use For A Name play some of their songs in an acoustic fashion. If you are already a fan of these bands you will probably find this totally interesting. I

high pitched screams in the music as well and I just love the banjo. Saw Wheel's side is one mid paced acoustic number that rocks. I really like the vocals with their raspy tones remind me a lot of Rumbleseat. Plus this song is about skipping stones, drinking wine, and walking on train tracks which are all really romantic subject matters to sing about. (hillbilly stew records PO box 82625/San Diego, CA 92138-2625/www.hillbillystew.com) (european)

SPLIT: MYLES OF DESTRUCTION/ABIKU - SPLIT 7" Myles are very interesting style of creepy goth grind. They are a 3 piece with violin, drums and bass, and it's the violin which really makes this stand out in a unique way. It's creepy sounding - and would totally intrigue any of the old new wave goth folks. But then the vocal style is gruff and the bass/drums is generally heavy and more thrash/grind aligned. Makes for a totally unique sound. Abiku is perhaps even more bizarre, taking on an electronic video game feeling, with drum machine and totally insane sounding echoed female vocals that range from a feeling of the new wave goth to totally pained thrash/grind. This is a 2 piece of vocals and synth. Both bands are totally unique and different, intriguing, almost flooring me with being amazing, but being just harsh and abrasive and weird enough to keep me surprised. (\$3ppd/ World Eater/ PO Box 42728/ Phila PA 19101 / www.worldeaterrecords.com>) (-Chns)

SPLIT: NEON MANIACS/CRANKED UP - SPLIT 7" The NM's go for the rockin' late 80's style of California punk, while Cranked Up go for a more street punk sound, with a very singalong packed effort. Two different bands, but equally enjoyable. (Puke N Vomit Records, PO Box 3435, Fullerton, CA 92834) (Dave)

SPLIT: PERSISTENCE/OSSIFRAGE - SPLIT 7" This is 2 gnnd bands from Quebec, both of which have women in the bands, which is pretty fucking rad. But the sleeve is so chaotic, it's almost impossible to figure out the band names, which is always frustrating. Persistence play a super thick, distorted style of crusty-grind punk with dual female vocals, and a very rockin' under style. Her voice is rad, and easily this is my fave of the two. Ossifrage are much more classic heavy grind, alternating between the slow and chunky stoner style and the blast beat driven manic fast parts. (Aversion/Succ "C" CP

is the first I've ever heard of this band and I'm actually really into it but I also love cover songs. I think it would be kind of hard to make a bad album with all the best songs that other people wrote unless you couldn't play at all but Stereoperider can. They cover some of my personal favorite bands (mostly from the nineties) including The Cure, Descendents, and Pixies. The rest of the bands they cover are also good but just aren't my favorites even though the song I like the best here is probably the Archers of Loaf song "Lowest Part is Free". Stereoperider themselves play melodic hardcore and that style really ends up fitting well with all of the songs they cover. The layout is very Pixies inspired as well. (Suburban Home Records/PO box/ 40757 Denver/CO 80204) (european)

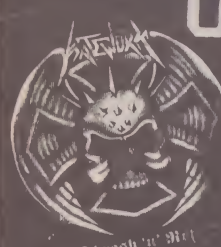
STRAIGHTEDGE KEGGER - FUCK THE KIDS 7" Fast DIY thrash from Fresno, CA. I shouldn't really review this because they have a song against that, called "Review this Asshole", so that's all I can offer for you...well, besides "this is good." (Undislessed /BP 515/33001 Bordeaux Cedex/France) (-JAY)

STREET TRASH - SLEEP Los Angeles skate thrash at it's finest. Just saw them a few times on tour, and they ripped things up every time. Really really fast, but no blasting or grinding, quirky like JELLYROLL ROCKHEADS (and similar vocals as well) or FUTURES. Buzz saw guitars (with tasty hot licks when appropriate) and riffs that might get stuck in your head if they weren't so damned fast...not a complaint, just an observation. Musically, this shit is great, but any brownie points earned by STREET

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20th Connecticut
21st Boston
22d Buffalo w/Kylea
23d Cleveland
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26th Detroit with Kylea
27th Chicago with Kylea
28th Mpls: Thrash Fest 6
29th Des Moines, w/ Skitsystem
30th Lawrence w/Skitsystem
31st Oklahoma
Sept 1st Dallas/Ft worth
2d Austin
4 Nashville
5th Cincinnati
6th Philadelphia

August 28 Minneapolis, Thrash Fest 6
29 Des Moines, with Victims
30 Lawrence Kansas
31st Denver
Sept 1st Salt Lake City
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4 Portland
5 Berkely, Gilman St.
6 SF bay area
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21+ show Path of Destruction, Misery, Kylea, Victims, Skitsystem

MUSIC

I) might argue hurt certain records, like the most recent DISFEAR. With Dbeat drums provided by the drummer for ACURSED, and guitar (riffs and wanks) supplied by the chief songwriter for SVART SNO, SME start off in good hands, but they take those ingredients and go so much further, and the result is a fucking masterpiece. This record is a fucking party from start to finish, there are parts that practically make me giggle every time I hear them (I know I know that doesn't really sound tough, but trust me, it is) simply because they are SO FUCKING FANTASTIC. Buzzsaw guitars, a wall of them, guide you through track after track of guitar breaks, bass noodling (only after a solid low end foundation has been laid, so it is never annoying, but always amazing), thick strained vocals that nod casually to CIMEK and ASOCIAL, intentionally or otherwise, and the fucking drums....fucking shit have I never heard a drum assault like this, they just never stop, and the Dbeat is flawless and unrelenting. You can tell I love it, and loads of folks were treated to the live show this past summer so I may be preaching to the choir here. Absolutely Essential. (Prank, PO Box 410892, San Francisco, CA 94141) (-Robert)

SUTEK CONSPIRACY - ST CD I thought I liked this band, but in fact, found this CD to be a rather painful nightmare for my ears. They play discordant screamo manic hardcore with super harsh and painful vocals. The music is metallic and heavy for the most part, with discordant manic leans that go from classic to death metal to all over the place in a chaotic technical style that I just could not catch the groove of. This is a great looking record, and I think I've liked them in the past, in smaller doses. But this CD made me freak out and feel pained, especially because of the harsh vocals. If screamo death metal sounds intriguing, you might like this more than me. (www.edwaltersrecords.org) (-Chris)

SYZSLAK - DESTROY THE LIGHT EP Heavy as hell sludge filled hardcore punk from Philadelphia. The bass sounds like a bulldozer...literally...and it feels like it will mow you over with every note. Downturned destruction, fast to faster, and then blasting off into chaos. Stoner rock riffs invade the songs from time to time, and it is oh so glorious when they do: absolutely crushing. They use three vocalists, each distinctive, the female vox are over the top demonic and fucking great while the dudes just sound plain pissed. There's another EP from this recording session out as well...get 'em both. (-Robert) I really enjoyed this slab of vinyl. It makes me feel dirty (in a Dave Tedder way, not a Christina Aguilera way). Dark punk rock, with some slower parts and fast blasty parts thrown in the mix. But, for the most part, pretty mid-tempo. Dual male/female vocals. Sludgy, dirty bass sound, raw guitar. Overall, nice

raw recording, twiddled just right, to where you can definitely still make out all the individual instrument sounds. Quality release (\$3/ P.O. Box 42728/ Philly, 19101/ syzslakmasyk@yahoo.com) (-Andy)

SYZSLAK - I AM MISERY 7" This is the first ep, which I have to say I don't like near as much as the second. This is an interesting band that combines elements of heavy rock and the stoner crowd with crust punk and grind. Their sound is unique. Gruff gnarly female vocals, and a guitar lead style with sour notes ever prevalent. And the reason I like this one less, is because that guitar rock stuff has much more focus and I just don't care for it. (\$3ppd/World Eater/PO Box 42728/ Phila PA 19101 / www.worldeaterrecords.com>)(-Chris)

TEN FOOT POLE-SUBLIMINAL MESSAGES CD This band has apparently been around for a long time but this is the first time I've ever heard them. I was happily surprised that I liked this record so much. It sometimes sounds like NOFX style pop punk and at other times it sounds like jerky hardcore. This album is full of fast super tight melodic leads accompanied by gruff yet sung out vocals. The lyrics deal with topics ranging from politics to girls. (GO Kart Records/ po box Prince Street Station/ NY NY 10012/ www.gokartrecords.com) (european)

THE ARSONS - BRIDGES DOWN CD With ex-members of Token Entry, Warzone, etc.-you'd expect a strong NY hardcore record right??? Well, what you get instead is a more melodic punky-rock release with harmonies instead of any tough posturing. It has a clean recording, and rather unique style to it, both of which helped it from falling into the "what were they thinking"-category of so many "ex-members of" bands. I was never a fan of Grey Area or Black Train Jack (both bands with members in this band), and found this more to my liking than either of them. It is no hardcore record for sure, but it also is not some generic formula-ridden record either. And I am so thankful there are no funky



parts like on the last Token Entry record either! (Mad At The World Records, PO Box 20227, Tompkins Square Station, New York City, NY 10009 www.matwrecords.com) (Dave)

THE BLINDING LIGHT - THE ASCENSION ATTEMPT CD Hardcore head fucker. This shit is tough as nails and well produced. Sweet sludginess keeps it real and differentiates this band from others trying way too hard to be hard. Fans of Converge & Slayer will enjoy having their eardrums blown out by these bastards. Not surprised that this is good considering they have Brian Lovro of Threadbare fame on the mic. Wicked, Dude! (DEATHWISH Records / www.deathwishinc.com) (-Johnny)

THE BRIEFS - SEX OBJECTS CD Fuck yes!!! This is the best blend of punk & politics I have heard in a LONG time! You get the music-side which is very WeirDOS-meets-Rezillos, but with some

of the most quirky politically charged lyrics to top it off. They have the sneakiest way of making you laugh while still keep the points carved in stone. From "Orange Alert" to "Destroy The USA" to "No More Presidents" - it is hit after hit! They also have the joke-side in full swing with "Halfsize Girl", "Killed By Ants", and the title track "Sex Objects". I seriously can not put into words how awesome this band is, and this 3rd full length is just more proof why! (BYO Records, PO Box 67609, LA, CA 90067 www.byorecords.com) (Dave)

THE GAFFENDS- FISSION, FUSION, AND THINGS MADE OF CONCRETE: These guys are from Pasadena, California. They play a unique blend of hardcore and early nineties style alt-rock. They sound like a blend of Botch and Sonic Youth. Angst ridden lyrics aren't all that great, but the music is exciting enough to keep the listener's interest. The lyrics are pretty screamy and you can't understand them anyhow, so who cares. The changes on these songs are totally rad. They go from weird and spacey, to heavy and rocky in a heartbeat. Sick. (Indiana Records/ www.indianarecords.com) -TNT

THE CHANGE- ST CD: The Change are from Sweden. They sound like Sick of It All and ignite with a recent AFI intro. It's pretty good for what it is, but nothing new. Porcell put

it out, if you're into that. It's pretty tight, but again, nothing you haven't heard before. Comes with a security tag. (Fight Fire With Fire Records/ www.fightfirehq.com) -TNT

THE CHROMATICS- PLASTER HOUNDS CD: This record actually came out about thirty years ago, or rather it sounds like it did. It's post-punk or whatever. It sounds like the Doors to me. Features a member of Antioch Arrow and Final Conflict. Sounds like the Doors. (GSL, P.O. Box 65091, Los Angeles, CA 90065 / www.goldstandardlabs.com) -TNT

THE CODE- RHETORIC OF REASON CODEP: The Code are from a little town outside of a little town in Pennsylvania. They claim to have escaped becoming lazy white trash by rocking. Sounds like a noble gesture. Musically, they blend a lot of styles from tough guy hardcore, to street punk, to "political folk music" and ska. There are four songs on this EP, which mix all of the previously mentioned musical stylings. They even toughen up an Operation Ivy song. (Jump Start Records, P.O. Box 104, Lake City, PA 16423 / www.thecode.com) -TNT

THE DAUNTLESS ELITE- SECURITY? CD A few weeks ago Ghost Mice came through Richmond with some band from Leeds England that no one had ever heard or even heard of. They were called The Dauntless Elite and when they played people danced and crowd surfed and just generally freaked out. Their style of melodic punk with dual vocals could be easily compared with D4. This record does not completely capture the angst and energy of their live performance but it's not far off. Their lyrics are personal and political and really pretty good. And the way the two vocalists play off each other and come together at other moments is perfect. (european)

THE DOOR KEYS - GREENWOOD PARK MALL CD This is the newest band out of Bloomington IN on Plan-it-X. They play mid paced punk rock with dual male and female vocals. The way the vocals harmonize when sung in unison remind me of X (LA not Holland) and both singers can hold their own. The music has a very rock and roll feel to it and which fits really well with the vocals. They have an energy that reminds me of older punk bands but at the same time is really fresh and powerful. The liner notes consist of a humorous history of the band and my only complaint here is that there is no lyric sheet. And once again at 5 bones a CD how can anyone not buy this. (plan-it-x/ po box 352/ Bloomington, IN 47402/ www.plan-it-xrecords.com) (european)

THE EPIDEMIC - ST CD This has strong hints of Kill Your Idols, but not in a bad way... It sounds like they are drawing from the same influences that make KYI so good as well. Stripped down punk rock, a style that seems to be a dying sound, but captured quite well here. (Roden Popsicle Records, PO Box 1143, Boston, MA 02134 www.rodenpopsicle.com) (Dave)

THE FLYING WORKER - A COLLECTION CD This is one of those mini-CDs. The discordant scream-o style of hardcore is such a bizarre sound. One minute totally mello and pretty guitar moments, then the next cranky and amped up to a metallic frenzy while the pained vocals just unleash in a screaming frenzy. To of course then become more melodic musically, while the angsty screams continue. It's predictable these days, and the Flying Worker do it well. (Electric Human Project/ 500 South Union St/ Wilmington DE 19805)

THE GIBBONS- s1 7" This band rips! They are three young lads out of Detroit playing snotty pop punk in a pist manner. The vocals are gruff and high pitched at the same time with just the perfect amount of off key warbling. Their lyrics are all pretty bleak especially "On The Subject Of Detroit #2" which is about the white flight to the suburbs and the mass abandonment of the city. This band is really a breath of fresh air in a world of overproduced radio friendly pop punk. (Salinas records/ PO box 20998/ Ferndale, MI 48220) (european)

THE GIRLS - ST CD In the new generation of the retro 80s revival, I'm a pretty excited girl, but still quite picky about how these new bands spin their sound and style. The ones that do it right stand far out, and Seattle's all boy band called The Girls do that. They sound like an 80s new wave band, with a good synth'd pop beat, and catchy vocal style that reminds me of a totally distinct sound and feeling that lands somewhere between The Cars or the Video Killed the Radio Star band, or some other unidentified band that I know so well, that it will keep eating at me each time I hear this until I place them. I especially like the vocals and the catchy style. This is all good, with no bullshit. It's 80s all the way, and it's awesome! (Dirtnap Records/ PO Box 21249/ Seattle WA 98111 <www.dirtnaprecs.com>) (-Chns)

THE GOONS - NATION IN DISTRESS CD A decade of system smashing punk rock and roll, and these DC veterans are still at it with a new record. Musically THE GOONS are certainly breaking no new ground, basic street punk, with a healthy dash of rock, and plenty of guitar wanking that would wouldn't be out of place at your local bar punk show. The vocals set this record apart...While the similarities to Biafra are almost non-existent, I still get the same feeling I got when I first heard Dks. Like a more shrill FLESHIES on vocals, and a more street savvy FLESHIES making the music. Politically fueled pit friendly hardcore punk that I think goes rather unnoticed. (Reptilian, 403 S. Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21231) (-Robert)

THE KICKS - HELLO HONG KONG CD This is very polished radio friendly rock that is full of hooks. This is totally catchy but it's much more MTV than MRR. They are a bit late to be another "THE" rock band but they do what they do well. With songs that could easily be singles like "Satellite" and "MIR" they could possibly be the next big thing on your radio. (TVT Records/ 23 E 4th St/ NY, NY 10003/ TVTrecords.com) (european)

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PLANES MISTAKEN FOR STARS

Up in Them Guts

is a great looking record, and I think I've liked them in the past, in small doses. But this CD made me freak out and feel pained, especially because of the harsh vocals. If scream death metal sounds intriguing, you might like this more than me. (www.edwilerrecords.org) (-Chris)

SYZSLAK - DESTROY THE LIGHT EP Heavy as hell sludge filled hardcore punk from Philadelphia. The bass sounds like a bulldozer...literally...and it feels like it will mow you over with every note. Downtuned destruction, fast to faster, and then blasting off into chaos. Stoner rock riffs invade the songs from time to time, and it is oh so glorious when they do: absolutely crushing. They use three vocalists, each distinctive, the female vox over the top demonic and fucking great while the dudes just sound plain pissed. There's another EP from this recording session out as well...get 'em both. (Robert) I really enjoyed this slab of vinyl. It makes me feel dirty (in a Dave Tedder way, not a Christina Aguilera way). Dark punk rock, with some slower parts and fast blasty parts thrown in the mix. But, for the most part, pretty mid-tempo. Dual male/female vocals. Sludgy, dirty bass sound, raw guitar. Overall, nice

TEN FOOT POLE-SUBLIMINAL MESSAGES CD This band has apparently been around for a long time but this is the first time I've ever heard them. I was happily surprised that I liked this record so much. It sometimes sounds like NOFX style pop punk and at other times it sounds like jerky hardcore. This album is full of fast super tight melodic leads accompanied by gruff yet sung out vocals. The lyrics deal with topics ranging from politics to girls. (GO Kart Records/ po box Prince Street Station/ NY NY 10012/ www.gokartrecords.com) (european)

THE ARSONS - BRIDGES DOWN CD With ex-members of Token Entry, Warzone, etc- you'd expect a strong NY hardcore record right??? Well, what you get instead is a more melodic punk-rock release with harmonies instead of any tough posturing. It has a clean recording, and rather unique style to it, both of which helped it from falling into the "what were they thinking"-category of so many "ex-members of" bands. I was never a fan of Grey Area or Black Train Jack (both bands with members in this band), and found this more to my liking than either of them. It is no hardcore record for sure, but it also is not some generic formula-nidden record either. And I am so thankful there are no funky

or the most quintessential charged lyrics to top it off. They have the sneakiest way of making you laugh while still keep the points carved in stone. From "Orange Alert" to "Destroy The USA" to "No More Presidents" - it is hit after hit! They also have the joke-side in full swing with "Halfsize Girl", "Killed By Ants", and the title track "Sex Objects". I seriously can not put into words how awesome this band is, and this 3rd full length is just more proof why! (BYO Records, PO Box 67609, LA, CA 90067 www.byorecords.com) (Dave)

THE CAFFIENDS - FISSION, FUSION, AND THINGS MADE OF CONCRETE These guys are from Pasadena, California. They play a unique blend of hardcore and early nineties style alt-rock. They sound like a blend of Botch and Sonic Youth. Angst nidden lyrics aren't all that great, but the music is exciting enough to keep the listener's interest. The lyrics are pretty screamy and you can't understand them anyhow, so who cares. The changes on these songs are totally rad. They go from weird and spacey, to heavy and punk in a heartbeat. Sick. (Indianola Records/ www.indianolarecords.com) (-TNT)

THE CHANGE - ST CD The Change are from Sweden. They sound like Sick of It All and Ignite with a recent AFI intro. It's pretty good for what it is, but nothing new. Porcell put

up the album in Bloomington IN on Plan-it-x. They play mid paced punk with dual male and female vocals. The way the vocals harmonize when sung in unison remind me of X (LA not Holland) and both singers can hold their own. The music has a very rock and roll feel to it and which fits really well with the vocals. They have an energy that reminds me of older punk bands but at the same time is really fresh and powerful. The liner notes consist of a humorous history of the band and my only complaint here is that there is no lyric sheet. And once again at 5 bones a CD how can anyone not buy this. (Plan-it-x/ po box 352/ Bloomington, IN 47402/ www.plan-it-xrecords.com) (european)

THE EPIDEMIC - ST CD This has strong hints of Kill Your Idols, but not in a bad way... It sounds like they are drawing from the same influences that make KYI so good as well. Stripped down punk rock, a style that seems to be a dying sound, but captured quite well here. (Rödent Popsicle Records, PO Box 1143, Boston, MA 02134 www.rodentpopsicle.com) (Dave)

THE FLYING WORKER - A COLLECTION CD This is one of those mini-CDs. The discordant scream-o style of hardcore is such a bizarre sound. One minute totally mello and pretty guitar moments, then the next cranky and amped up to a metallic frenzy while the pained vocals just unleash in a screaming frenzy. To of course then become more melodic musically, while the angsty screams continue. It's predictable these days, and the Flying Worker do it well. (Electric Human Project/ 500 South Union St/ Wilmington DE 19805)

THE GIBBONS - ST CD This band nps! They are three young lads out of Detroit playing snotty pop punk in a pist manner. The vocals are gruff and high pitched at the same time with just the perfect amount of off key warbling. Their lyrics are all pretty bleak especially "On The Subject Of Detroit #2" which is about the white flight to the suburbs and the mass abandonment of the city. This band is really a breath of fresh air in a world of overproduced radio friendly pop punk. (Salinas records/ PO box 20998/ Ferndale, MI 48220) (european)

THE GIRLS - ST CD In the new generation of the retro 80s revival, I'm a pretty excited girl, but still quite picky about how these new bands spin their sound and style. The ones that do it right stand far out, and Seattle's all boy band called The Girls do that. They sound like an 80s new wave band, with a good synth pop beat, and catchy vocal style that reminds me of a totally distinct sound and feeling that lands somewhere between The Cars or the Video Killed the Radio Star band, or some other unidentified band that I know so well, that it will keep eating at me each time I hear this until I place them. I especially like the vocals and the catchy style. This is all good, with no bullshit. It's 80s all the way, and it's awesome! (Dirtnap Records/ PO Box 21249/ Seattle WA 98111 <www.dirtnaprecs.com>) (-Chris)

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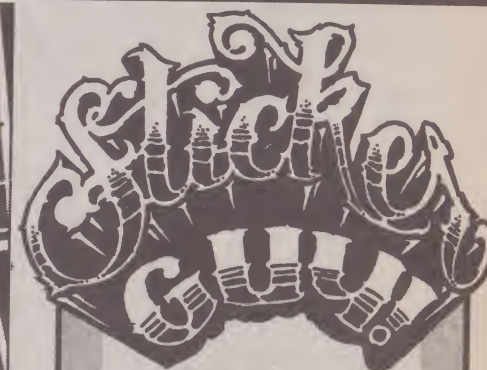
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"weird" factor, not political content) It has an almost Rudimentary Peni-thing going on. (Alternative Tentacles Records, PO Box 419092, San Francisco, CA 94141 www.alternativetentacles.com) (Dave)

THE MISTAKE - F*CK EVERYTHING UP CD This is manic yet classic hardcore with a harsh edge of raspy vocals and punchy moshable breakdowns. While the guitars have their metallic edge, can crunch and rock, they keep it much more hardcore and don't have the production of that over the top metallic hardcore sound of the times. They play fast and thrashy, but then throttle the breakdowns and then kick it fast again, while the vocals bark in a punchy style. The songs are on the short side, and while not ground breaking and amazing, it's solid and youthful. They'd probably sound better with the big production, but I kinda like that they keep it more hardcore with it out. (Prime Directive/ PO Box 571/ Balboa CA 92661 www.primedirectiverecords.com) (-Chris)

THE NATIONAL ACROBAT - TNA-THE COMPLETE RECORDINGS CD Frenetic guitar spatters, exasperated rant vocals, thundering drums and rocketeer bass flailings. Would have like to have seen them when they were kickin' around. Hearing sounds from DC, Chicago and VA. Scenes of glory past. Not quite a classic but worthy of many a spin. Check it! (INITIAL Records/ PO Box 17131/ Louisville, KY 40217) (-Johnny)

THE ONCE OVER TWICE - SPECIAL MOMENTS TO DETONATE THEMSELVES CD The Once Over Twice blend a variety of musical styles to form a sound that is reminiscent of Quicksand, Modest Mouse, Hot Water Music, and the Get Up Kids. There sound seriously has something for everyone. They are tight as a drum and their lyrics are fueled by a range of emotions and sentiments as wide as that of their musical influences. Their moods range from somber and sarcastic to more upbeat and optimistic. The Once Over Twice win the best of that batch for my pile of records for review this issue. Solid (In At The Deep End Records, 82 Barlow Drive South, Awwsworth, Notts, NG16 2TD, England/ www.inatthedependrecords.co.uk) -TNT

THE PLOT TO BLOW UP THE EIFFEL TOWER-IF YOU CUT US, WE BLEED CD This band plays a punk jazz fusion that is pretty abrasive. Their guitar sound is discordant and it's accompanied by a very squealing horn. The time changes lend themselves to the jazz side of this band. The vocals are shouted in the higher pitch and remind me at points of the vocals in At The Drive In. All in all this is only three songs. (hcnl records/ po box 36997/ Indianapolis, IN 46236/ www.hcnl.com) (europan)

THE RESIDUALS - ATOM BOMB EP Fast chaotic punk rock from Texas, not at all what I was expecting from the looks of the record. The distorted-like-crazy home recording helps this record a LOT, and the end result is a raging assault with barked vocals that remind me of a higher pitched TRAGEDY (note: the music here sounds NOTHING like them, just the voice). There's just enough slop here to make the songs sound real, and the level of intensity is through the roof. If they are half this good live, then consider me blown away. Proof that you can't judge a record by it's cover...ignore the generic street punk aesthetics and fucking rock out. (Par O Doc's Records, PO Box 222059, Dallas, TX 75222) (-Robert)

THE SETUP - NINE KINDS OF PAIN 7" Okay, so here is the funny thing. This is not the Setup from Richmond, this is a hardcore band from Belgium, with ex-members of Circle (a rad band I loved), The Suicide Files, and bunch of others. This is good solid heavy hardcore that rocks. No bullshit, not mosh-metal, just powerful hardcore in a damn good way that is crunchy and metallic, without being tough guy macho feeling. This is really awesome, but don't get it mixed up with the Richmond, VA band of the same name. (AM Records/ Nijvelsebaan 161/3060 Korbeek-Dijle/ Belgium www.am-records.com) (-Chris)

THE SINISTER QUARTER - THE PINK GUILLOTINE CD The Sinister Quarter are from Madison, WI. They are very sinister. They sound not unlike early At The Drive-In and Modest Mouse. They have a mid-nineties indie/punk sound. They're pretty OK. (Exotic Fever Records, P.O. Box 297, College Park, MD 20741/ www.exoticfever.com) -TNT

THE SPITS CD These spunky kids are yet another band I'm reviewing this month that have the old school punk sound ALA the Ramones and Similar bands. The Spits separate themselves from the rest of the pack with the keyboard which adds the perfect amount of melody to the slightly gruff vocals and rocked out guitar. Their song titles are pretty good and I wish that they would have included a lyric sheet but from their pictures they seem like they are pretty there and way into having fun. Dirtnap Records seems to be putting out some pretty good stuff lately. (Dirtnap Records/ PO Box 21249/ Seattle, WA 98111/ www.dirtnap.com) (europan)

THE STRAP-ONS - PUNK ON PUNK CRIME Up beat snotty punk which sounds like it's straight out of the eighties. The vocalist has a similar voice and singing style to Keith Morris of the Circle Jerks. Their lyrics are simplistic, funny, and often offensive but that fits the style of punk they play. (Valiant Death Records/ 22543 James river driver Carrollton VA 23314/ www.valiantdeath.com) (europan)

THE TOTAL END - CHASING NIGHTMARES LP Ah yes, one of the best new bands of late, who's demo tape totally blew me away have put those songs to LP and it smokes. Heavy, dark and brooding, this is the kind of galloping, pummeling, and weaving hardcore that I love. They're from CT, and there are a lot of great people great bands (like Diallo, Devastation, AOS) in this band and they have mastered the dark and heavy throbbing style. This is good shit with a deep throbbing bass heavy pummeling power and deep multi-vocals with good lyrics of the armageddon, dark side of the world, society is coming to an end, and the political system is fucked sort. This has a relentless power and is delivered with the raging aggression, and blistering power, with some Scandi-guitar leads thrown in there just right. This is awesome!! (No Options Records/ PO Box 22285/ Oakland CA 94623 nooptions666@yahoo.com) / The Total End c/o Cries of Pain/ PO Box 1004/ Windsor CT 06095 criesofpainrecs@hotmail.com) (-Chris) ****

THEMA ELEVEN-CHOOSE YOUR BEAST COEP This is some pretty weird hardcore from the Czech Republic. It's kind of reminiscent of early 90s DC stuff. The first song has disturbing samples from Gummy. That kind of creeps me out. Their lyrics are angst ridden with thoughts of suicide and the like. Actually, all of the songs are about suicide. Very dark. Lyrics are in English and Czech. (Strik Records/ www.strik.net) -TNT

NY 10034/ wakingrecords.com) (-Chris)

THREATENER - THE HAMMERING EP I've heard loads about this Michigan band for some time now, everybody who has seen them raves, and their demo is pretty awesome, so I was stoked to get this in the mail. Machine gun drums spearhead this assault, unrelenting powerlessness inspired thrash with tasty "dis-squeal" guitar leads and a singer spilling gasoline. All go, and not a moment of slow. No complaints from me. (625, PO Box 423413, San Francisco, CA 94142) (-Robert)

THUMB'S UP 4 EP Fast Boston hardcore with crew backing vox and a picture of a monster on the cover. Nothing bad to say here, 9 songs of solid as hell hc punk. Kinda reminds me of the way I felt the first time I heard BURY THE LIVING in that there is a certain, "yes, this is how you do it," reaction. That said, however, by the end of this EP I was farting around the room instead of rocking out enthusiastically. "6X" is a killer song...thumb's up. (MooCow Records, 38 Larch Circle, Belmont, MA 02478) (-Robert)

TIME X - GOOD MOVES NOT GOOD PLAYERS 7"

The badly sung english lyrics were too hard to look past, as it just seemed to make every song worse as it went on & on. The rehash of 2nd wave straight edge found on here just falls short of keeping my attention at all. The title is more accurate than it should be, though I think they could be better with more effort put into the song writing down the line. (Refuse Records, PO Box 7, 02-792 Warszawa 78, Poland www.refuserecords.pw.pl) (Dave)

TOTALT JAVLA MORKER - MANNIKSINS

RINGA YARDE CD T.J.M. returns with their 2nd album, remaining the same cold, harsh Swedish hardcore/metal band of previous efforts. To further explain, they're precise crust, seemingly cut out of the SKITSYSTEM mold, but playing with grind and the more extreme elements of metal(core) then most of the genre do. It gives them a unique sound, which while not for everyone, will please modern Swedish hardcore fans and probably get a lot of metal-crossover play as well. Modern metal tendencies aside, this is a good harsh album that will turn a lot of head(banger)s towards Sweden. (Disortion/ po box 6294/ 400 60 Göteborg/ Sweden) (-JAY)

TRAPDOOR FUCKING EXIT - BE NOT CONTENT CD Post hardcore from Sweden. These guys have a rocking sound with slightly chaotic feel to it. They are a bit reminiscent of Refused. The lyrics are very personal and are song with a sort of desperate strained shout. What I really like about this band is the franticness which just keeps pounding on and on throughout the entire record. (No Idea/ PO Box 14636/ Gainesville, FL 32604/ www.noidearecords.com) (europan)

TRUE NORTH - SOMEWHAT SIMILAR CD Chaotic post hardcore from former members of famous Florida hardcore bands (Asshole Parade, Palatka). The discordant assault is broken up with brief periods of melody that add depth to True North's sound. There are dual vocals that are sometimes shouted and

sometimes screamed in a strained manner. Their lyrics are somewhat political but not in an obvious or preachy sense. I really like the anti cop lyrics in "Hey, Lets Spend the Night Together." But my favorite song here has to be "Summer Lovin" because it has an epic quality with its 3 vocalists and slow haunting melody complimented with frantic drumming. All in all this is a very good record from some hardcore veterans. (No Idea/ PO Box 14636/ Gainesville, FL 32604/ www.noidearecords.com) (europan)

V.P.R. - AURAL ASSAULT CD Quite goofy from beginning to end, with about every group gimmick attacked somewhere on this 4 3/4" piece of plastic. Metallic-esque punkcore, mostly fast with occasional breakdowns. I am guessing the "joke" aspect is funnier in-person, so I'd probably check them out live to see if it comes off as crazy on-stage? All in all it was an enjoyable listen. (Squirrel Heart Records, PO Box 5871, Arlington, VA 22205) (Dave)

www.daretoarecords.com) (europan)

V& - BEER CITY PRESENTS COUNTERATTACK CD This is a label sampler from Beer City of their past & present releases, some more well known than others, presented on one low priced plastic circle. You get The Faction, DRI, Beer Zone, MDC, Verbal Abuse, and many more. (Beer City Records, PO Box 26035, Milwaukee, WI 53226 www.beercity.com) (Dave)

V& - BOSTON: A PUNK & HARDCORE COMPILATION 2XCD As the title indicates, this is a 2xcd set packed with bands from Boston & surrounding cities... 60 tracks total, some well known acts, and some newer/lesser known ones as well. A good variety, with some raw punk, lots of hardcore mayhem, and some other surprise gems. Tommy & The Terrors, Street Dogs, Shot Dead, Suspect Device, and maaaaaaany more. A good inexpensive way to see what Boston has up its beandrenched sleeves... (Rodelet Popsicle Records, PO Box 1143, Boston, MA 02134 www.rodeletpopsicle.com) (Dave)

V& - GLOBAL PUNK VOL 1 This comp consists of radiofriendly pop punk, a little new metal, and a bit of straight up punk. Nothing really stands out here to me and the packaging is terrible. (www.falcim.com) (europan)

V& - HALF LIFE: UNDER THE KNIFE COVERS COMP. 7" Okay so Half Life are one of the greatest bands that Pittsburgh ever spawned, and the Under the Knife 7" is a fucking classic of dirty punk, before there was any genre of the sort. This is a record covered by those of us who grew up on this band and sound. So this is a 4 band compilation tribute of covers of these 4 songs. Dirty Bird do a dirty and fast version of "Consider the Alternative", Caustic Christ, the most appropriate band on here, do "Under the Knife", and since they too grew up on this band, they do it fucking rad and true. Deny Everything were the latest edition to this comp which has been in the making for many many years. They do "More of the Same", which is fairly unrecognizable in a fast hardcore thrashy style. Scared of Chaka, who probably seem the oddest band on here do "All Our Yesterdays", and what is interesting is that they did this early on the 90s before they released all their albums, but that doesn't mean that they still are not out of place on this with their high-pitched vocals and poppy style that sounds like it's on the wrong speed. To be honest Caustic Christ are the only ones that do this true to form, and I would expect nothing less. I appreciate the effort put into this, and am stoked that it saw the light of day, but it's kinda weird. And everyone would still be better served to seek out the original Half Life 7" to hear some of the best dark punk around. (Moo Cow Records/ 38 Larch Circle/ Belmont MA 02478) (-Chris)

V& - SO CAL THRASH DEMOLITION (BARBARIC THRASH #5) EP Southern California has always

been a hotbed...no matter what you are into, there's loads of it. I suppose the millions of people have something to do with that? Well, if you wanna thrash, then here's your starter kit... LOW THREAT PROFILE steal the show, although their lone song takes up the

first 25 seconds of the record, but everything here is stellar: OUT OF VOGUE (more straight hardcore), FIND HIM AND KILL HIM (I think this is what I mean when I say "thrashcore"), YOUTH RIOT (killer hc thrash), BURN YOUR BRIDGES (2-man power/violence super group), ILL ME BACK (teen mayhem), APATHETIC YOUTH (grind), and HARRY BALZAGNA & THE TEENIE WEENIES round out the record with the best SxK song I've heard all day. I 625, king of the compilation? Perhaps (625, PO Box 423413, San Francisco, CA 94142) (-Robert)

V& - THE WAR ON TERRORISM 7" COMP Four angry and political pop punk songs attacking the war on terror and the climate it's created in the US. It's totally awesome to see bands like this writing political songs directly attacking everything that our government is doing right now and not being associated with punk voter.com. (Candlef Mumbler and The Gabbons play straight up dirty punk

any means, although it's not bad. Maybe not a bad starting point if you're trying to check out some of the classic bands on here if you're a newcomer to the punk world. (Beer City Records/ P.O. Box 26035/ Milwaukee, WI 53226/ www.beercityrecords.com) (-Andy)

VIA SATELLITE - AUX ED CD Via Satellite are from York, PA. Don't let that European label fool you. Auxed is their first full-length CD. I'd like to like this record because there are parts of it that sound good. There are some parts, however, that don't go together all that well with the parts that I do like. Then, there are some parts that connect very loosely if at all to those other parts. Anyhow, this CD is sort of to listen to. I think if they tightened up and decided what kind of music they wanted to play, Via Satellite could be a sick band. (Ass-Card Records, Annenstr. 5, 44137 Dortmund, Germany/ www.asscardrecords.com) -TNT

VIIMEINEN KOLONNA - IRVILUVALP If you didn't pick up the CD release of this from Hardcore Holocaust, cause you were waiting for vinyl, Agipunk has delivered. In S&L #78 Robert said: A blast of metallic Finnish chaos. 15 tracks (CD/LP same), smoking throughout, buzzsaw guitars with the treble turned up to almost 11 (think Atrocious Madness guitar sound, but with drums and bass and less feedback). Recorded in 2003, this sounds like it could be a lost classic from the 80s... over the top backing vocals and fists in the air. Vinyl comes with a patch. (www.Agipunk.com)

WARSORE - BRUTAL REPRISAL 7" Gndnoise noise battery from Australia. They've developed quite a following over the years and this release marks their final output, recorded in 2000. Very fast, noisy and harsh, you've come to expect this... and they deliver. A strong final release. (Psychotherapy c/o Otto Beran/ Anenska 1296/ Pardubice 530 02/ Czech/ email: needluthings@wz.cz) (-JAY)

WASTED - HERE WE GO AGAIN CD 29 songs from this Finnish band, who are a guilty pleasure of mine. Finely crafted songs that RANCID would write...if RANCID wrote good songs. These tracks are taken from EPs and compilations spanning 1998-2001, and the bands progression is obvious. The first four songs could almost be lost KBD recordings, excellent raw sound and buzzsaw guitars. Then the band hones it's songwriting craft and gets themselves some good recordings... and the rest is just great punk rock music. Street punk fun, without the street punk attitude. Damn, I love it. (Boss Tuneage, PO Box 74, Sandy, BEs, SG19 2WB ENGLAND) (-Robert)

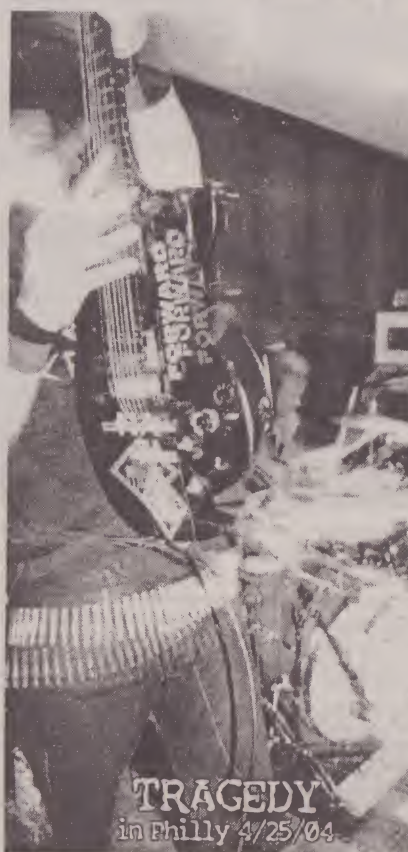
WE MUST BURN - AND WE BURN EP I suppose there are only so many different ways to say "thrashcore," right? WE MUST BURN are thrashcore. I totally lack thrashcore from Japan, in fact. Great riffs, and barked high pitch pitched vocals, half time rocking riffs that get you pumped for the all out raging that always follows. You know what it sounds like...and it's fucking good. (625, PO Box 423413, San Francisco, CA 94142) (-Robert)

WHAT THE KIDS WANT - LOUD QUIET LOUD CD Out of the ashes of The Sissies comes this. Ali is still in the this but Hannah is not. My first reaction was that this is similar but less punk and slower than The Sissies. Really it's just a little bit more mature and not necessarily more or less punk. It's more of the same beautiful heartfelt lyrics and amazingly catchy songs. The more I listen to this record the more it gets stuck in my head and the more I fall in love with it. Songs like "My Last Name," "4:30 AM" and "Nashville" are my favorites mostly I think because of their poignant lyrics which of course is helped by Ali's beautiful voice. My only complaint is that I really miss Hannah's back up vocals although I know from Abe Froman has an awesome voice as well but she is only on a few songs. There is also an awesome Breeders cover. (Smack Dab In The Middle Records/ 5339 moro rd/ moro, IL 62067/ www.geocities.com/sdm-records) (europan)

WOLFBRIGADE - A D-BEAT ODYSSEY LP During the time leading up to seeing Wolfbrigade in Mpls, I wasn't really sure what they sounded like, because I'd given all the records to Jay to review over the years cause they seemed to be his favorite band, and therefore I didn't even really know them or their sound. I went knowing they were from Sweden, and that people were stoked, and that the singer has blown his voice and they would only be playing two shows of their tour, one of which being the best. And let me tell you I was blown away. I mean totally blown away. I loved Wolfbrigade like I'd gone there to see my old-time favorite band. They were fucking amazing. Playing a charged and throttled heavy crusty punk style of Swedish hardcore with the weaving guitars and a relentless energy that just ruled. After being totally blown away, I had to get all their available releases immediately, including the brand new one. A D-Beat Odyssey, with the limited cover from the fest. There are just 4 songs on this, the last 4 songs from this band, as due to the singer's fucked up vocal chords, they are done. These 4 songs are amazing and I've been listening to this over and over again, totally loving the pummeling delivery of heaviness. And I love the title "A D-Beat Odyssey". Even though I'm not exactly sure what it means when asked, I just love it. It's epic and monumental, along with the apocalyptic zombie punk artwork and I just love it. I love the English Dogs too, and will defend some silliness to no end. And since I'm by far the least of an authority on the world of D-beat, the fact that this is the odyssey - well I think it's great all around. The odyssey experience, the title, the art, and the rock. I'm glad I got to see their last two US shows and experience a masterpiece of 4 long songs and I'm stoked and gusting. (Ilavoc/ PO Box 8585/ Mpls MN 55408) (-Chris) *****

WIFELSX - EXORUCIATION CD 22 blazing tracks with an almost infest crossed with early American Nightmare feel to them. The songs are mostly under a minute & get their point across fast & loud. The songs that are not manic blurs have the occasional breakdown, but don't dwell on them too long & are back to blazing soon after. I remember having a 7" from these guys, but it didn't grab me like this did. Nice packaging/layout too as an added plus. (Trash Art, PO Box 775, Providence, RI 02901 www.soundandculture.com) (Dave)

YETI - VOLUME OBLITERATION TRANSCENDENCE CD Slow brooding progressive rock. Moody like NEUROSIS, but the similarities end there... except that this took a full live minutes to get going. Heavily heavy and mostly instrumental, but unless you have the time to dedicate to listening to the whole thing, then the impact got lost pretty quickly. There is a lot to be said for a band that releases a record that



TRAGEDY
in Philly 4/25/04



band plays a punk jazz fusion that's pretty abrasive. Their guitar sound is discordant and it's accompanied by a very squealing horn. The time changes lend themselves to the jazz side of this band. The vocals are shouted in the higher pitch and remind me at points of the vocals in *Al The Drive In*. All in all this is only three songs. (hcnl records/po box 36997/Indianapolis, IN 46236/www.hcnl.com) (european)

THE RESIDUALS - ATOM BOMB EP Fast chaotic punk rock from Texas, not at all what I was expecting from the looks of the record. The distorted-like-crazy home recording helps this record a LOT, and the end result is a raging assault with barked vocals that remind me of a higher pitched TRAGEDY (note: the music here sounds NOTHING like them, just the voice). There's just enough slop here to make the songs sound real, and the level of intensity is through the roof. If they are half this good live, then consider me blown away. Proof that you can't judge a record by it's cover...ignore the generic street punk aesthetics and fucking rock out. (Par O Doc's Records, PO Box 222059, Dallas, TX 75222) (-Robert)

THE SETUP - NINE KINDS OF PAIN 7" Okay, so here is the funny thing. This is not the Setup from Richmond, this is a hardcore band from Belgium, with ex-members of Circle (a rad band I loved), The Suicide Files, and bunch of others. This is good solid heavy hardcore that rocks. No bullshit, not mosh-metal, just powerful hardcore in a damn good way that is crunchy and metallic, without being tough guy macho feeling. This is really awesome, but don't get it mixed up with the Richmond, VA band of the same name. (AM Records/Nijvelsebaan 161/3060 Korbeek-Dijle/ Belgium <www.am-records.com>) (-Chris)

THE SINISTER QUARTER - THE PINK GUILLOTINE CD The Sinister Quarter are from Madison, WI. They are very sinister. They sound not unlike early Al The Drive-In and Modest Mouse. They have a mid-nineties indie/punk sound. They're pretty OK. (Exotic Fever Records, P.O. Box 297, College Park, MD 20741/www.exoticfever.com) (-TNT)

THE SPITS CD These spunky kids are yet another band I'm reviewing this month that have the old school punk sound ALA the Ramones and Similar bands. The Spits separate themselves from the rest of the pack with the keyboard which adds the perfect amount of melody to the slightly gruff vocals and rocked out guitar. Their song titles are pretty good and I wish that they would have included a lyric sheet but from their pictures they seem like they are pretty out there and way into having fun. Dirtnap Records seems to be putting out some pretty good stuff lately. (Dirtnap Records/PO box 21249/Seattle, WA 98111/www.dirtnap.com) (european)

THE STRAPONS - PUNK ON PUNK CRIME Up beat snotty punk which sounds like it's straight out of the eighties. The vocalist has a similar voice and singing style to Keith Morris of the Circle Jerks. Their lyrics are simplistic, funny, and often offensive but that fits the style of punk they play. (Valiant Death Records/22543 James river drive/Carrollton VA 23314/www.valiantdeath.com) (european)

THE TOTAL END - CHASING NIGHTMARES LP Ah yes, one of the best new bands of late, who's demo tape totally blew me away have put those songs to LP and it smokes. Heavy, dark and brooding, this is the kind of galloping, pummeling, and weaving hardcore that I love. They're from CT, and there are a lot of great people great bands (like Diallo, Devastation, AOS) in this band and they have mastered the dark and heavy throbbing style. This is good shit with a deep throbbing bass heavy pummeling power and deep multi-vocals with good lyrics of the armageddon, dark side of the world, society is coming to an end, and the political system is fucked sort. This has a relentless power and is delivered with the raging aggression, and blistering power, with some Scandi-guitar leads thrown in there just right. This is awesome!!! (No Options Records/PO Box 22285/Oakland CA 94623 <nooptions666@yahoo.com> / The Total End o/o Cries of Pain/PO Box 1004/Windor CT 06095 <cnesofpainsrecs@hotmail.com>) (-Chris) *****

THEMA ELEVEN - CHOOSE YOUR BEAST CD/EP This is some pretty weird hardcore from the Czech Republic. It's kind of reminiscent of early 90s DC stuff. The first song has disturbing samples from Gummy. That kind of creeps me out. Their lyrics are angst ridden, with thoughts of suicide and the like. Actually, all of the songs are about suicide. Very dark. Lyrics are in English and Czech. (Striek Records/www.striek.net) (-TNT)

THIS SHIP WILL SINK - ST CD Discordant emo hardcore with edgy fast changes, screaming vocals, and a slightly chaotic style of diverse changes. Most likely you'll know if this is a genre that appeals to you, and therefore will be even more interested that this is members from You and I and the Assistant. This is a familiar style for me, and I like it most all of the time, the extra grating edge gets to me a bit when they get chaotic and prog and jazzy, though of course when the songs just let it rock, I'm totally down and love it. This is solid, they do their thing well, and rock it out heavy, and yet sensitive and manic at the same time. (Waking Records/1803 Riverside Dr #5M/NY

ny.refuserrecords.com) (p/v) (Dave)

TOTAL JAVLA MORKER - MANNIKANS RINGA VARDE CD T.J.M. returns with their 2nd album, remaining the same cold, harsh Swedish hardcore/metal band of previous efforts. To further explain, they're precise cut, seemingly cut out of the SKITSYSTEM mold, but playing with grind and the more extreme elements of metal/core then most of the genre do. It gives them a unique sound, which while not for everyone, will please modern Swedish hardcore fans and probably get a lot of metal-crossover fans as well. Modern metal tendencies aside, this is a good harsh album that will turn a lot of head(banger's) towards Sweden. (Distortion/po box 6294/400 60 Göteborg/Sweden) (-JAY)

TRAPDOOR FUCKING EXIT - BE NOT CONTENT CD Post hardcore from Sweden. These guys have a rocking sound with slightly chaotic feel to it. They are a bit reminiscent of Refused. The lyrics are very personal and are song with a sort of desperate strained shout. What I really like about this band is the franticness which just keeps pounding on and on throughout the entire record. (No Idea/PO box 14636/Gainesville, FL 32604/www.noidearecords.com) (european)

TRUE NORTH - SOMEWHAT SIMILAR CD Chaotic post hardcore from former members of famous Florida hardcore bands (Asshole Parade, Palatka). The discordant assault is broken up with brief periods of melody that add depth to True North's sound. There are dual vocals that are sometimes shouted and sometimes screamed in a strained manner. Their lyrics are somewhat political but not in an obvious or preachy sense. I really like the anti cop lyrics in "Hey, Lets Spend the Night Together." But my favorite song here has to be "Summer Lovin" because it has an epic quality with its 3 vocalists and slow haunting melody complimented with frantic drumming. All in all this is a very good record from some hardcore veterans. (No Idea/PO box 14636/ Gainesville, FL 32604/www.noidearecords.com) (european)

V.P.R. - AURAL ASSAULT CD Quite goofy from beginning to end, with about every group gimmick attacked somewhere on this 4 3/4" piece of plastic. Metallic-esque punkcore, mostly fast with occasional breakdowns. I am guessing the "joke" aspect is funnier in-person, so I'd probably check them out live to see if it comes off as crazy on-stage? All in all it was an enjoyable listen. (Squirrel Heart Records, PO Box 5871, Arlington, VA 22205) (Dave)

VA - MONTREAL SPIRIT CD This is a compilation made up of mostly Montreal bands and a few bands who are supposedly fans of Montreal from other cities. There are 20 tracks on this CD. Most of them seem to be either melodic poppy hardcore or more straight up hardcore. There are also a couple of ska songs and a few acoustic tracks on the end. The Fifth Hour Hero track and a ska track by Rollerstarter are my two favorites. What's missing from this CD is info about the bands and tracks from the Montreal Motorhead influenced punk bands! (dare the care records/ po box 463, Stn C Montreal/ QC, H2T 4K4, Canada/



TRAGEDY
in Philly 4/25/04



FROM ASHES RISE
in DC 5/16/04

20998/ Ferndale, MI 48220) (european)

VA COUNTER ATTACK CD COMPILATION Sampler of Beer City Records bands. Features some old classic U.S. h.c. shit they've re-issued. D.R.I., M.O.C., the Faction, and Toxic Reasons. Assorted more recent bands such as, Red Flag 77, Despite, Words that Burn, etc. I dig the classics on this comp, of course, but can't really get into the stuff the label is actually releasing. I definitely would not label this compilation "essential" by

record covered by those of us who grew up on this band and sound. So this is a 4 band compilation tribute of covers of these 4 songs. Dirty Bird do a dirty and fast version of "Consider the Alternative". Caustic Christ, the most appropriate band on here, do "Under the Knife", and since they too grew up on this band, they do it fucking rad and true. Deny Everything were the latest edition to this comp which has been in the making for many many years. They do "More of the Same", which is fairly unrecognizable in a fast hardcore thrashy style. Scared of Chaka, who probably seem the oddest band on here do "All Our Yesterdays", and what is interesting is that they did this early on the 90s before they released all their albums, but that doesn't mean that they still are out of place on this with their high-pitched vocals and poppy style that sounds like it's on the wrong speed. To be honest Caustic Christ are the only ones that do this true to form, and I would expect nothing less. I appreciate the effort put into this, and am stoked that it saw the light of day, but it's kinda weird. And everyone would still be better served to seek out the original Half Life 7" to hear some of the best dark punk around. (Moo Cow Records/38 Larch Circle/Bolton MA 02478) (-Chris)

VA - SO CAL THRASH DEMOLITION (BARBARIC THRASH #5) EP Southern California has always

been a hotbed...no matter what you are into, there's loads of it. I suppose the millions of people have something to do with that. Well, if you wanna thrash, then here's your starter kit... LOW THREAT PROFILE steal the show, although their lone song takes up the

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VOGUE (more straight hardcore), FIND

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BALZAGNA & THE TEENIE WENIES

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voter.com. Canfield, Mumbler, and

The Gibbons play straight up dirty pop

punk while Megan Kott is just herself

with an electric guitar. Really it's a

quite good. (Salinas records/PO box

songwriting craft and gets themselves a good recording. And the rest is just great punk rock music. Street punk fun, without the street punk attitude. I love it. (Boss Tunesage, PO Box 74, Sandy, Beds, SG19 2WB England) (-Robert)

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XFILESX - EXCRUCIATION CD 22 blazing tracks with an almost infest crossed with early-American Nightmare feel to them. The songs are mostly under a minute & get their point across fast & loud. The songs that are not manic blurs have the occasional breakdown, but don't dwell on them too long & it didn't grab me back to blazing soon after. I remember having a 7" from these guys, but it didn't come like this did. Nice packaging layout too. as an added plus. I (Trash Art. PO Box 725, Providence, RI 02901 www.soundandculture.com) (Dave)

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ZEKE - TILL THE LIVIN' END CD/LP Hey Ya!! Zeke is back! And they are as gmy and fugly (that's short for fuckin' ugly by the way) and ornery as they've always been. Blind Marky Felchione rakes hell across them singing wires and barks like a beat ass dawg with rabid blood rage. Daredevil Donny Paycheck slams it down with a Philthy Philaciousness. Thing is if you dig a good formula band - i.e. AC/DC, Motorhead, Dwarves etc. You'll get a most, wiply wonderful in the pantalones. Step up for a bre iron, thrashed ass beat down. (RELAPSE Records/P.O. Box 2060/Upper Darby, PA 19082) (-Johnny)

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Keith Morris of the Circle Jerks. Their lyrics are simplistic, but often offensive but that fits the style of punk they play. (Valiant Death Records/22543 James River drive/Carrollton VA 23314/www.valiantdeath.com) (european)

THE TOTAL END - CHASING NIGHTMARES LP Ah yes, one of the best new bands of late, who's demo tape totally blew me away have put those songs to LP and it smokes. Heavy, dark and brooding, this is the kind of galloping, pummeling, and weaving hardcore that I love. They're from CT, and there are a lot of great people great bands (like Diallo, Devastation, AOS) in this band and they have mastered the dark and heavy throbbing style. This is good shit with a deep throbbing bass heavy pummeling power and deep multi-vocals with good lyrics of the armageddon, dark side of the world, society is coming to an end, and the political system is fucked sort. This has a relentless power and is delivered with the raging aggression, and blistering power, with some Scandi-guitar leads thrown in there just right. This is awesome!!! (No Options Records/PO Box 22285/Oakland CA 94623 <nooptions666@yahoo.com> / The Total End c/o Cries of Pain/PO Box 1004/Windsor CT 06095 <criesofpainscrees@hotmail.com>) (-Chris) *****

THEMA ELEVEN - CHOOSE YOUR BEAST CDEP: This is some pretty weird hardcore from the Czech Republic. It's kind of reminiscent of early 90s DC stuff. The first song has disturbing samples from Gummo. That kind of creeps me out. Their lyrics are angst ridden, with thoughts of suicide and the like. Actually, all of the songs are about suicide. Very dark. Lyrics are in English and Czech. (Striker Records/www.striker.net) -TNT

THIS SHIP WILL SINK - S/T CD: Discordant emo hardcore with edgy fast changes, screamy vocals, and a slightly chaotic style of diverse changes. Most likely you'll know if this is a genre that appeals to you, and therefore will be even more interested that this is members from You and I and the Assistant. This is a familiar style for me, and I like it most all of the time, the extra grating edge gets to me a bit when they get chaotic and prog and jazzy, though of course when the songs just let it rock, I'm totally down and love it. This is solid, they do their thing well, and rock it out heavy, and yet sensitive and manic at the same time. (Waking Records/1803 Riverside Dr #5W/NT

here has to be "Summer Lovin'" because it has an epic quality with its 3 vocalists and slow haunting melody complimented with frantic drumming. All in all this is a very good record from some hardcore veterans. (No Idea/PO Box 14636/Gainesville, FL 32604/www.noidearecords.com) (european)

V.P.R. - AURAL ASSAULT CD: Quite goofy from beginning to end, with about every group gimmick attacked somewhere on this 4 3/4" piece of plastic. Metallic-esque punkcore, mostly fast with occasional breakdowns. I am guessing the "joke" aspect is funnier in-person, so I'd probably check them out live to see if it comes off as crazy on-stage? All in all it was an enjoyable listen. (Squirrel Heart Records, PO Box 5871, Arlington, VA 22205) (Dave)

VA - MONTREAL SPIRIT CD: This is a compilation made up of mostly Montreal bands and a few bands who are supposedly fans of Montreal from other cities. There are 20 tracks on this CD. Most of them seem to be either melodic poppy hardcore or more straight up hardcore. There are also a couple of ska songs and a few acoustic tracks on the end. The Fifth Hour Hero track and a ska track by Rollerstar are my two favorites. What's missing from this CD is info about the bands and tracks from the Montreal Motorhead influenced punk bands! (dare the care records/PO Box 463/Sin C Montreal/QC, H21 4K4, Canada/



20998/Ferndale, MI 48220) (european)

VA COUNTER ATTACK CD COMPILATION: Sampler of Beer City Records bands. Features some old classic U.S. h.c. shit they've re-issued, D.R.I., M.D.C., the Faction, and Toxic Reasons. Assorted more recent bands such as, Red Flag 77, Despite, Words that Burn, etc. I dig the classics on this comp, of course, but can't really get into the stuff the label is actually releasing. I definitely would not label this compilation "essential" by

YOUR BRIDGES (2-man powerviolence super group), HIT ME BACK (teen mayhem), APATHETIC YOUTH (grind), and HARRY BALZAGNA & THE TENNIE WEENIES round out the record with the best SxS song I've heard all day! I bet, king of the compilation? Perhaps (625, PO Box 423413, San Francisco, CA 94142) (-Robert)

VA - THE WAR ON TERRORISM 7" comp: Four angry and political pop punk songs attacking the war on terror and the climate it's created in the US. It's totally awesome to see bands like this writing political songs directly attacking everything that our government is doing right now and not being associated with punk voter.com, Caulfield, Mumbler, and The Gibbons play straight up dirty pop punk while Megan Kott is just herself with an electric guitar. Really it's all quite good. (Salinas records/PO box

monumental, along with the apocalyptic zombie punk network and I just love it. I love the English Dogs too, and will defend some silliness to no end. And since I'm far from the least of an authority on the world of D-beat, the fact that this is the odyssey - well I think it's great all around. The odyssey experience, the title, the art, and the rock. I'm glad I got to see their last two US shows and experience a live delivery of amazing Swedish punk. I'm converted, even if a bit too late. This is a masterpiece of 4 long songs and I'm stoked and gushing. (Havoc/PO Box 8585/Mpls MN 55408) (-Chris) *****

XFILESX - EXCRUCIATION CD: 22 blazing tracks with an almost infest crossed with early-American Nightmare feel to them. The songs are mostly under a minute and get their point across fast & loud. The songs that are not manic blurs have the occasional breakdown, but don't dwell on them too long & are back to blazing soon after. I remember having a 7" from these guys, but it didn't grab me like this did. Nice packaging/layout too. as an added plus! I (Trash Art, PO Box 775, Providence, RI 02901 www.soundandculture.com) (Dave)

YETI - VOLUME OBILITERATION TRANSCENDENCE CD: Slow brooding progressive rock. Moody like NEUROSIS, but the similarities end there... except that this disc took a full five minutes to get going. Devastatingly heavy and mostly instrumental, but unless you have the time to dedicate to listening to the whole thing, then the impact gets lost pretty quickly. There is a lot to be said for a band that releases a record that HEAVENS you to concentrate. Few records need very much attention, and this one needs yours undivided. (Life Is Abuse, PO Box 20524, Oakland, CA 94620) (-Robert)

ZEKE - TILL THE LIVIN' END CDEP: Hey Ya!!! Zeke is back! And they are as gmy and fugy (that's short for fuckin' ugly by the way) and omery as they've always been. Blind Marky Felchione rakes hell across them singing wires and barks like a beat ass dawg with rabid blood rage. Daredevil Donny Paycheck slams it down with a Philthy Philaciousness. Thing is if you dig a good formula band i.e. AC/DC, Motorhead, Dwarves etc. You'll get a moist, wiggy wonderful in the pantaloon. Set up for a tire iron, thrashed ass beat down. (RELAPSE Records/P.O. Box 2060/Upper Darby, PA 19082) (-Johnny)

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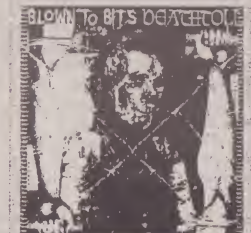
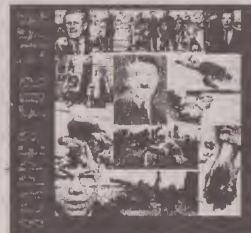
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WITCH HUNT EP's of... CD

The first two EP's of this New Jersey based political punk outfit have been remixed and remastered to the standards of their new LP. The original vinyl versions are now out of print, but are now being offered together here as one CD. If you've not yet heard Witch Hunt, be prepared to be rocked hard!

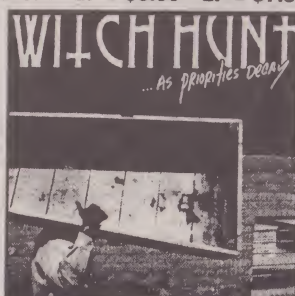
OUT IN EARLY AUGUST



STATE OF FEAR Discography LP / CD

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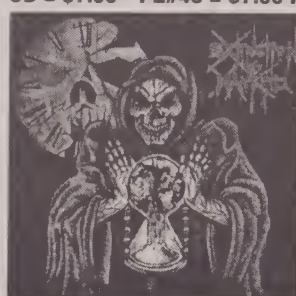
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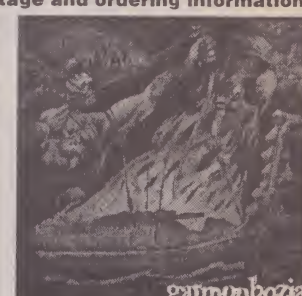
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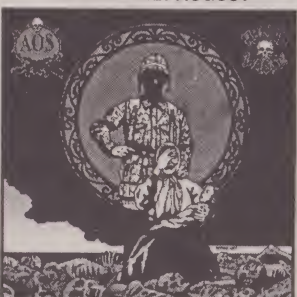
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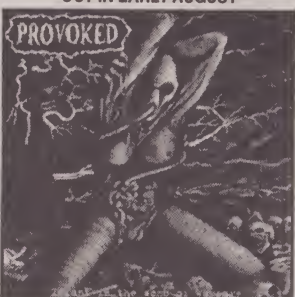
DISRESPECT s/t 7"

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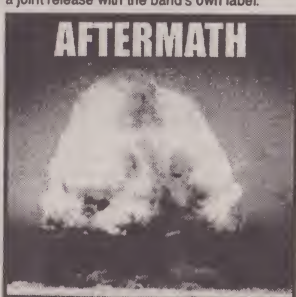
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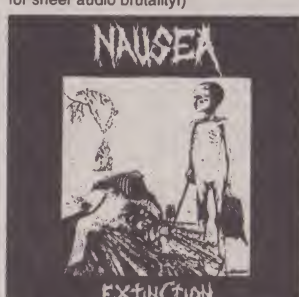
PROVOKED Infant in the Womb of Warfare LP

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VIA Aftermath CD

Twenty eight political punk / hardcore bands from around the world have donated some of their best material for this Profane Existence benefit release. Featured are tracks from: DAMAD, AXIOM, SCORNER, ABUSO SONORO, BROTHER INFERIOR, REACT, RECTIFY, ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR, RESIST AND EXIST, SIN DIOS, CALLOUSED, FORCA MACABRA, WHOREHOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, HELLKRUSHER, ARMISTICE, ACURSED, DOOM, RESENT, OPERATION, SEE'IN RED, LEGION OF DOOM, CRESS, EXTINCTION OF MANKIND, THOSE POOR BASTARDS, DISKONTO, RIOT/CLONE, SHARPVILLE, and DIR YASSIN.



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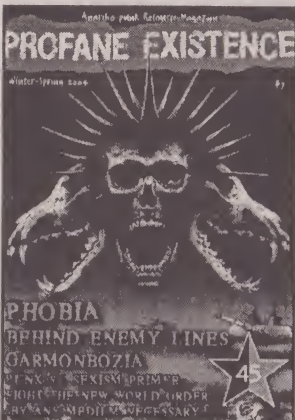
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PROFANE EXISTENCE #45

Book plus CD compilation

Starting with issue #45, Profane Existence now has a 100 page BOOK format. Includes interviews with bands Phobia, Behind Enemy Lines and Garmonbozia, plus an interview and gallery of artwork by Marald. Features also include feticide in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, punx vs. sexism primer, writings from inside the prison walls, and political words and art entitled "By Any Medium Necessary," compiled by Dave Trenga, vegan recipe pages, and more.

BONUS CD! Also included is a 15-year anniversary CD for PE Records, with re-

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Discography LP / CD

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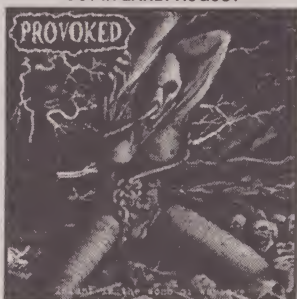
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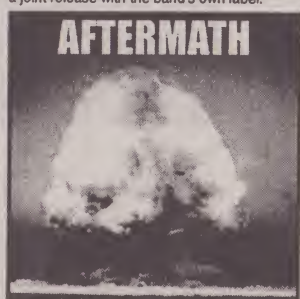
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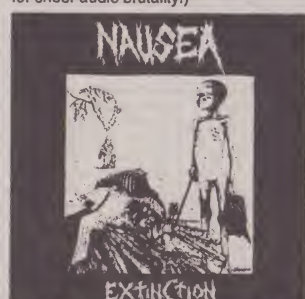


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COUNTY Z *There Goes the Neighborhood?* \$3.25
CUT THROAT HOODS s/t 7" \$3.25
CRESS *The Greed Machine...* double LP \$11.50
CRITICA RADICALA / CZOLGOSZ split CD \$8.00
CZOLGOSZ *Guernica* CD \$8.00
CZOLGOSZ *Liberation* CD \$8.00
DANCE OF DAYS *Correção de Traia* CD \$8.50
DANCE OF DAYS *A História Não Tem Fim* CD \$8.50
DEATHREAR *The Severing of...* CD \$8.00
DEATHREAR *Reason to Live...* 7" \$3.75

FUNERAL *Cry of State Desperation?* \$3.25
GREENSCAB *Kill, Precede, Rampage?* \$3.75
GRITOS DE ALERTA / JESUS CROST split 7" \$3.75
GUTS PIE EARSHOT *Exit* CD \$8.00
GUTS PIE EARSHOT *Wait* CD / LP \$8.00/\$9.00
HARUM SCARUM *The Last Light* CD/LP \$8.00/\$8.50
HEAD HITS CONCRETE *Hope, Fear...* 7" \$3.25
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HIBERNATION *Into the Sorrow of...* LP/CD \$9.00/\$8.50
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HUMAN GREED / MONSTER X split 7" \$3.25
INFEZIONE *Oppressione Quotidiana* LP \$8.50
INNER CONFLICT *Anschluss* treffer CD/LP \$8.00
IN THE SHIT *A World of...* CD/LP \$8.50/\$9.00
KERUM *Twilight of the Apocalypse* LP \$8.00
LA CASA FANTOM s/t LP \$9.00
LA SOGA DEL MUERTO *Nos Quieren Enterrar* CD \$8.00
LIFE... BUT HOW TO LIVE IT? s/t LP \$7.50
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LOST WORLD Capitalism is the Disease 2x 7" \$5.50
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MACHATAZO *Trono de Huesas* LP \$9.00
MISCHIEF BREW *Bá'ke ná!* CD \$8.00
MISERY *The Early Years* CD \$8.00
MONSTER X *Indoctrination* CD \$9.00
NAKED AGGRESSION *The Gut Wringing Machine* CD \$8.00
THE NOW DENIAL / SEEN IN RED split 7" \$3.75
OIPOLLOI *Fight Back* LP \$9.00
OMOBNA / P.U.S. split 7" \$3.25
OPERATION *Firhit?* LP \$9.00
OPERATION *Destructive Unhacking 12"* \$8.50

REMAINS OF THE DAY *Hanging on Rebellion* CD \$8.00
REMAINS OF THE DAY *An Underlying Frequency* CD \$8.00
RESACA PERMANENTE *Victim del Tiempo* CD \$8.00
RESIST AND EXIST *Kwangju* CD \$8.00
RESIST AND EXIST *Dare to Struggle...* 7" \$3.25
THE RITES s/t CD/LP \$8.00
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SANGRE DE LOS PUERCOES *They Lie We Die?* 7" \$3.25
THE SCARLET LETTER *¿How is Your Heart?* CD \$8.00
SCARRED FOR LIFE *Is This the Price of Freedom?* \$3.25
SCARRED FOR LIFE *Born, Work, Die* CD/LP \$8.00
SEARCHING FOR CHIN / THE WAKE split CD \$8.00
SELFISH *Cry for Love, Cry for Death* CD/LP \$8.00
SEVERED HEAD OF STATE *Anathema Device* LP \$8.00
SEVERED HEAD OF STATE *Discography* CD \$9.00
SIEGE *Drop Dead* LP \$8.50
SKARP s/t 7" \$3.25
SODOMIZED BY MARCIA BRADY s/t 7" \$3.25
SPLAG *Fall/Rise?* 7" \$3.25
STATE CONTROL *No Escape* CD \$8.00
STILLBORN s/t 7" \$3.25
SUBMERGE *Album* CD \$8.00
SUBMISSION HOLD *Sackcloth and Ashes* CD/LP \$8.00
SUBMISSION HOLD *Waiting for...* CD/LP \$8.00
SUFFER s/t 7" \$3.75
THE SYSTEM *Thought Control* LP \$9.00
TASTE OF FEAR *1991-2003* CD \$8.50
TEAR IT UP *Nothing to Nothing* CD/LP \$8.00
TERROR Y MISERIA s/t 7" \$3.25
TOXIC NARCOTIC w/ BEN UPTON *picture disc* 7" \$5.25
TOXIC NARCOTIC *Shoot People, Not Dope* CDEP \$5.00
TOXIC NARCOTIC *89-99* CD/LP \$8.00
TOXIC NARCOTIC / THE UNSEEN split 7" \$3.25
TO WHAT END? *The Purpose Beyond* CD \$8.00
TRAGEDY s/t CD / LP \$9.00

ORDERING INFO:

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE SHIPPING!!!

To calculate shipping costs, first you must determine the total weight of your order. Please use the following chart to determine the weight of your order:

Item	Weight
LP	0.6 lbs
7"	0.2 lbs
CD	0.4 lbs
PE zine	0.8 lbs

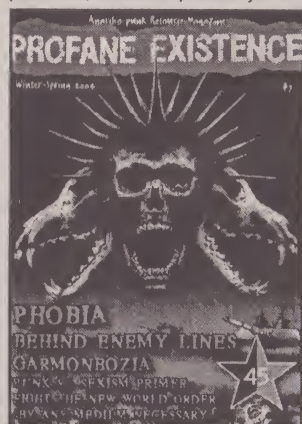
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3	\$2.76	\$9.45	\$15.05	\$18.60	\$22.95
4	\$3.18	\$12.15	\$20.05	\$23.60	\$29.95
5	\$3.60	\$17.25	\$23.50	\$32.50	\$34.00
each 1lb	+\$42	+\$1.10	+\$2.00	+\$3.00	+\$3.30

*Western Europe Airmail rates apply to the following countries:

DISRESPECT s/t 7"

Veteran members of Misery, Destroy, Pissed, and Civil Disobedience, plus a couple of new faces, have joined together to play the style of music that brought them into the punk movement - 80's punk rock in the UK style. Having played entire sets of classic punk songs for most of their two year existence, Disrespect have finally turned their attention to original songs of their own, highlighting the musical style that brought them together. Five songs of male/female vocal fronted, sing-along punk rock, with socio-political lyrics.



PROFANE EXISTENCE #45

Book plus CD compilation

Starting with issue #45, Profane Existence now has a 100 page BOOK format. Includes interviews with bands Phobia, Behind Enemy Lines and Garmonbozia, plus an interview and gallery of artwork by Marald. Features also include feticide in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, punx vs. sexism primer, writings from inside the prison walls, and political words and art entitled "By Any MEDIUM Necessary," compiled by Dave Trenga, vegan recipe pages, and more.

BONUS CD! Also included is a 15-year anniversary CD for PE Records, with recordings from the past, present, and future releases. Tracks included from: Sofahead, Doom, Nausea, Karma Sutra, Moral Suckling, Hiatus, Pissed, One by One, Negative Stance, Resist, State of Fear, Icons of Filth, S.S.T., Christdriver, Civil Disobedience, Misery, Detestation, A/Political, Phobia, Resist and Exist, Provoked, Another Oppressive System, Human Waste, Disrespect, Garmonbozia, Extinction of Mankind, & Behind Enemy Lines.

PROFANE EXISTENCE #46

Is currently in the works and will be available late August. Interviews include The Profit\$, Wolfbrigade, Migra Violenta, the Bat Annex and more. Features include CLITest 2004 reports, Reproductive Freedom at risk, and more. Still 100 pages!

ANOTHER OPPRESSIVE SYSTEM / HUMAN WASTE split 7"

Another Oppressive System hail from Connecticut, the cradle of raw American crust, which has produced such bands as Deformed Conscience, State of Fear, React, Dissension, etc. Keeping up with local tradition they have assembled three of their finest tracks of power crust with urgent political lyrics. Human Waste are from Sweden and represent the perfect trans-Atlantic counterpunch, with three powerful tracks of their own similarly brutal and political crust. Both bands have released a series of brutal 7"s and splits in the past, but these recordings are the best to date.

PROVOKED

Infant in the Womb of Warfare LP

Provoked is the direct result of gathering five of the maddest heads in Minneapolis into a single band (former members of Scorned, Servitude, Pontius Pilate, Phalanx, Flux of Disorder, etc.). Eleven tracks of raging, thrash-influenced, anarcho-punk mayhem, with strong female vocals and angry socio-political commentary. Includes a large booklet with lyrics, artwork, and related writings.

VIA Aftermath CD

Twenty eight political punk / hardcore bands from around the world have donated some of their best material for this Profane Existence benefit release. Featured are tracks from: DAMAD, AXIOM, SCORNEO, ABUSO SONORO, BROTHER INFERIOR, REACT, RECTIFY, ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR, RESIST AND EXIST, SIN DIOS, CALLOUSED, FORCA MACABRA, WHOREHOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, HELLKRUSHER, ARMISTICE, ACCURSED, DOOM, RESENT, OPERATION, SEE'IN' RED, LEGION OF DOOM, CRESS, EXTINCTION OF MANKIND, THOSE POOR BASTARDS, DISKONTO, RIOT/CLONE, SHARPVILLE, and DIR YASSIN.

NAUSEA Extinction LP

Originally released by Profane Existence in 1990 and regarded as an essential, anarcho-punk classic ever since! Angry male & female vocals venting rage over powerful often emotionally charged music from one of the founding bands of the modern anarcho-punk movement. This is now available with a large, Crass-style fold out poster sleeve. Don't be fooled by watered down anthology discs - Profane Existence is the ONLY source for the original raw and brutal recording, original artwork, samples, and the even the song missing from the CDs!

DOOM Police Bastard 7"

Five songs recorded in 1989, during the same session in which they recorded their brilliant split LP with NO SECURITY. Considered by many to be their best early material, this classic EP contains the songs "Means to an End," "Relief, Pt. 2," and of course, "Police Bastard." This was the second release ever by Profane Existence Records and is considered a masterpiece of "crust."

Next PE Releases for fall 2004:

ST. BUSHMILL'S CHOIR LP
DISRESPECT 2nd 7"
BEHIND ENEMY LINES 1st LP reissue
DECREPIT Discography LP

SOME OF THE HUNDREDS OF TITLES WE DISTRIBUTE:

See web site for descriptions & availability...

ABSCCESS / MACHATAZO split 7" \$3.75
ABSOLUCION s/t CD \$8.50
ACAO DIRETA Revolta / Repúdio.. CD \$9.00
ACCION MUTANTE Y No Hai Remedio 7" \$3.75
AGATHOCLES Alive and Mincing CD \$8.00
AJAXFREE / SICK TERROR split 7" \$3.75
ALL OR NOTHING What Doesn't Kill You... CD \$8.00
ALTERCADO El Ruido y la Rabia CD \$9.00
ANNIHILATION TIME s/t LP \$8.00
ASS s/t CD / LP \$8.00
ASSCHAPEL Fire and Destruction CD \$8.00
BEYOND DESCRIPTION A Road to... CD \$8.00
BEYOND DESCRIPTION Acts of Sheer Madness LP \$9.00
BOXED IN s/t 7" \$3.75
BRAINOIL 12" LP \$9.00
BREAD AND WATER s/t LP \$8.00
BREAD AND WATER Future Memories 7" \$3.25
BREAD AND WATER / REASONS OF INSANITY split 7" \$3.25
BROKEN / A GLOBAL HOLOCAUST split 7" \$3.00
COCK SPARRER Run Away CD \$8.00
CONFUSIONE s/t 7" \$3.75
CONTRAVENE Prison Sells 7" \$3.25
THE COOTERS The Moon Will Rise Again CD \$8.00
COUNTERBLAST Balance of Pain LP \$9.00
COUNTY Z There Goes the Neighborhood 7" \$3.25
CUT THROAT HOODS s/t 7" \$3.25
CRESS The Greed Machine... double LP \$11.50
CRITICA RADICALA / CZOLGOSZ split CD \$8.00
CZOLGOSZ Guernica CD \$8.00
CZOLGOSZ Liberation CD \$8.00
DANCE OF DAYS Coração de Troia CD \$8.50
DANCE OF DAYS A História Não Tem Fim CD \$8.50
DEATHREAT The Severing of... CD \$8.00
DEATHREAT Reason to Live... 7" \$3.75
THE DEGENERICS Generica LP \$8.00
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DESPITE No Promise of Tomorrow CD \$8.00
DESPITE/HELLBOUND split CD \$8.00
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DIALLO Diagram of a Scam 7" \$3.75
DIRT Black and White 2LP / 2CD \$12.00
DISCARGA Que Venha Abaixo 7" \$3.75
DISGUST The Horror of it All CD / LP \$8.00
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ECONOCHRIST Discography double CD \$9.50
EXECUCÃO / INSULT split 7" \$3.75
EXTINCTION OF MANKIND The Nightmare Seconds CD \$8.50
EXTINCTION OF MANKIND / MISERY split CD \$8.00
EXTINCTION OF MANKIND Scars of Mankind... 7" \$3.75
EXTINCTION OF MANKIND Weakness 7" \$3.75
FACE DOWN IN SHIT Shit Bloody Shit CD \$8.00

FUNERAL Cry of State Desperation 7" \$3.25
GREENSCAB Kill, Precede, Rampage 7" \$3.75
GRITOS DE ALERTA / JESUS CROST split 7" \$3.75
GUTS PIE EARSHOT Exit CD \$8.00
GUTS PIE EARSHOT Wait CD / LP \$8.00/\$9.00
HARUM SCARUM The Last Light CD/LP \$8.00/\$8.50
HEAD HITS CONCRETE Hope, Fear... 7" \$3.25
HELLBOUND / SCORNEO split 7" \$3.25
HELLKRUSHER Victims of Hate 7" \$3.75
HIBERNATION Into the Sorrow of... LP/CD \$9.00/\$8.50
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HUMAN GREED / MONSTER X split 7" \$3.25
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IN THE SHIT A World of... CD/LP \$8.50/\$9.00
KERUM Twilight of the Apocalypse LP \$8.00
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OPERATION Destructiv Utveckling 12" \$8.50
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PCP Revelations CD \$8.50
PETROGRAD ...Until Someone Fails CDEP \$4.50
PETROGRAD Nine One One LP \$9.00
PHOBIA Get Up and Kill CD \$7.50
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RESAKA PERMANENTE Victim del Tiempo CD \$8.00
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RESIST AND EXIST Dare to Struggle... 7" \$3.25
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SIEGE Drop Dead LP \$8.50
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THE SYSTEM Thought Control LP \$9.00
TASTE OF FEAR 1991-2003 CD \$8.50
TOXIC NARCOTIC w/ BEN UPTON picture disc 7" \$5.25
TOXIC NARCOTIC Shoot People, Not Dope CDEP \$5.00
TOXIC NARCOTIC 89-99 CD/LP \$8.00
TOXIC NARCOTIC / THE UNSEEN split 7" \$3.25
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VIA First Strike CD \$8.00
VIA Get Thee To a Nunnery CD \$8.00
VIA Give me Back LP \$6.50
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VIA I Thrash, Therefore I Am CD \$8.00
VIA More World, Less Bank 7" \$3.75
VIA Whispers double LP & 7" \$12.00

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LP	0.6 lbs
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PE zine	0.8 lbs

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Checks, money orders or well-hidden cash (at your own risk) should be sent to our address below. Please list alternatives (when ordering from the list at left) or check web site for availability. Easy credit card & Paypal orders can be made directly on our web site (inventory updated daily).

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USA

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